THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

QLF

# THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME XLVIII NUMBER 1 JANUARY 1995

WE'VE MOVED

## EBARC Meeting

January 13, 1995
7:00 p.m.

Speaker: George Beynen, WA6JKB
"Being a Blind Handi-Ham"

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets the second Friday of each month at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave. (near Solano), Albany. The Executive Board meets the first Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mel Hurley, KC6FAW, 137 Purdue Ave., Kensington.

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
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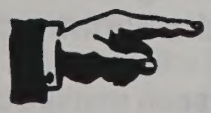

Robert C. Hughes, N6SPY
238 San Carlos Ave.
El Cerrito, CA 94530

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*The Blown Fuse* is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is free to its members. *The Blown Fuse* welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. *The Blown Fuse* reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of *The Blown Fuse*. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

Deadline for February issue: Jan. 25

*[Articles can be submitted to the W6CUS packet bulletin board's AA6XZ mailbox, by dialing in to the editor's computer, by dictation over the 'phone, or by e-mail to primbsch@cmsa.berkeley.edu.]*

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## Message from the President

### Fred Nieman, KC6VLL

This year EBARC gave out only two awards. The feeling of the board was that if everyone received a "piece of paper" it wouldn't mean as much to anyone. During the year many members helped the club by doing the many things that it takes to make it run smoothly. If it were not for these members there would not be a club.

*Member of the Year* was awarded to Ralph Hall, W6EFD. When Will Nance, AA6VL, gave up the Station Chairmanship, the Ralph Hall fan club approached the President and suggested Ralph for the job. They stated that he would probably not ask for the job, but if asked would do a great job. The asking was done, the accepting was done, and then the whirlwind began. The first order of business was to enlarge the station at the Red Cross. Those who have not been there lately need to make it down there. Don't try to use the old door, because there is a new door to the new room that is attached to the old room. Ralph does a report every meeting on the funds used and man hours used at the remodel. The remodel is under budget. The man hours are above 600, and 75% of those are the hours that Ralph has personally put in. He has several helpers, but if it weren't for Sundays, Molly wouldn't see him. This award is the club's way to say ***"thank you"***. Ralph, you surely deserve the thank you and the award.

The second award, the *Do-Bee Award*, went to Rachel Lewellen. What is a *Do-Bee*? Well, it is a person who if asked to do something, you can consider it done -- not just once, but every time. Several times these things have been things that were not her favorite jobs, but she was asked, and she did the job. If asked what has she done for the club, it is a lot shorter list if you ask what she hasn't done. She hasn't complained, talked badly about others, nor left her job unfinished, whatever it was. If you had to describe Rachel it would be; a great big HEART that is a *Do-Bee*. Thanks Rachel. It's sure great to be part of your family. Rachel is asking to be relieved of some of her duties so she can take a breath. After several of those breaths, we know that she will be back as Your *Do-Bee*.

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## The HF Horizontal Full Wavelength Loop Antenna

### Bob Uhrhammer, WB6VEX

One HF antenna that is often overlooked by the amateur community is the horizontal full wavelength loop. This is largely due to the proliferation of references which dismiss the antenna as useless for most amateur communications requirements. Many of the

references assume that it is only good for local and regional communication based on its predominantly high wave-angle and omnidirectional characteristics. Unfortunately, they tend to ignore the fact that it is an efficient radiator and that it is much less susceptible to man-made and atmospheric noise than are vertical and dipole antennas. These latter characteristics are a distinct advantage when working DX.

The principal advantages of the HF horizontal loop antenna are that it is inexpensive and easy to construct, and that it operates on its fundamental and harmonic frequencies with an SWR which rarely exceeds 3:1 when fed with 50 or 75 ohm coax. The principal disadvantages are that it requires 4 supports, that it be at least 1/12 wavelength high (1/6 wavelength or higher is recommended), and that it requires a lot of sufficient size. For example, for 80 meter operation, it requires a lot of 4600+ square feet and 20+ foot tall supports.

My interest in the horizontal loop HF antenna was renewed recently while looking for an 80 meter antenna which would perform better than my current antennas (a sloper suspended from a 32 foot high tower and a 40 meter inverted V fed through an antenna tuner). My lot is just large enough to erect an 80 meter horizontal loop with dimensions of approximately 75 feet by 55 feet.

The length of the loop is calculated via L(feet) = 1005/f(MHz). As an example, for operation on 3750 kHz, the loop length is 1005/3.75 or 268 feet. Ideally, we want the loop to be a square 268/4 or 67 feet on a side (to maximize the cross-sectional area), but a rectangle will also work well as long as it is not more than about 1.5 times as long as it is wide. Feed the loop using 50 or 75 ohm coax (don't use a balun) directly adjacent to one of the supports. Fix the loop wire to the insulator adjacent to the feed point so it won't slip, and float the loop wire through the other insulators. The antenna can be tensioned using a counter-weight at the corner opposite the feed point. The wind load of the wire loop is quite small and the counter-weight need only be a couple of pounds or so for a loop made from 18 gauge wire. Thus, as an example, the supports do not need to be nearly as strong as those required to support a dipole.

As always, when constructing and erecting any antenna, think ***safety first*** and follow the electrical codes. Refer *to The ARRL Handbook* and *The ARRL Antenna Book* for further information.


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## Treasurer's Report
### November, 1994
### Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer

NOVEMBER INCOME

Regular Renewals: KC6QCG, KE6IAJ, KD6AEZ, N6JGC, KK6UZ, N6ILD, KC6QZP, N6VGA, WB6PIV .... $180.00
Family Renewals: N6EEG/N6UYO .... 24.00
Coffee Kitty ..... 18.45
Total Nov. Income ..... $222.45

NOVEMBER DISBURSEMENTS

Blown Fuse Printing ..... $39.40
Blown Fuse Postage ..... 36.25
Pacific Bell (W6CUS) ..... 13.23
W6CUS Construction (11/1/94) ..... 365.12
W6CUS Construction (11/29/94) ..... 447.43
Total Nov. Disbursements ..... $901.43

BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS

Checking (General Fund) ..... $996.78
Savings (Station Fund) ..... $1,968.16

East Bay Amateur Radio Club dues are now payable. Regular membership is $20, and family membership is $24. Please print your call sign(s) on your check, to facilitate bookkeeping.

Remember to feed the Kitty!

---

## Treasurer's Report
### December, 1994
### Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer

DECEMBER INCOME

Regular Renewals: N6LFW, WD6AKC, WB6DXZ, N6PIX, KC6JCQ, WA6TNI, KC6JXB, W6EFD, N6SPY, N6JNK, NU6W ..... $220.00
Family Renewals: N6MNL/KD6OKJ, N6ASB/Marjorie, WB6DOB/KJ6OP, KK6PH/AA6XZ ..... 96.00
Total Dec. Income ..... $316.00

DECEMBER DISBURSEMENTS

Blown Fuse Printing ..... $38.96
Blown Fuse Postage ..... 32.48
Hospitality Gift (F. Nieman) ..... 17.31
W6CUS Construction (12/2/94) ..... 325.61
W6CUS Construction (12/16/94) ..... 465.95
Refreshments (D. Brandon, Nov.) ..... 13.05
Pacific Bell (W6CUS) ..... 13.04
Albert H. Wohlers - Liability Insur. ..... 264.00
Albert H. Wohlers - Equip. Insur. ..... 192.40
Total Dec. Disbursements ..... $1,362.80

BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS

Checking (General Fund) ..... $741.54
Savings (Station Fund) ..... $1,176.60

Our club station equipment insurance, which normally is paid for out of the Station Fund, was paid by the General Fund. This was done to enhance the W6CUS construction fund. The club membership dues for 1995 are now payable. Regular membership is $20, and family membership is $24. Please note your call sign(s) on your check.

Remember to feed the Kitty!

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## Holiday Dinner Followup
### David Brandon, KG6FR

The Club thanks three stores in our area for kind donations of door prizes. Ham Radio Outlet, Oakland, donated three books (the *ARRL Handbook*, *the FCC Rules*, and the *Packet Guide*) and Yaesu hats. Al Lasher Electronics, Berkeley, graciously donated a multimeter. The Base Station, Concord, kindly contributed a scanner guide. In addition, we thank the management of Hunan Villa Restaurant for contributing a special good luck charm to round out the door prizes. For your information, the Club provided the boxes of

cookies. Thanks to WB6DOB, WI6O, KG6FR, and AA6YE for soliciting, purchasing, and wrapping the prizes.

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## 1995 Program Notes
### David Brandon, KG6FR

The program for 1995 is taking form, and numbers of suggestions have been received. Among the potential topics are antenna ordinances, FCC monitoring procedures, TVI, ham radio and the Internet, search and rescue operations, using test equipment, ham radio in the schools, and MARS. One or more will be hands-on workshops. Most important, I am asking that at each meeting, two or three members give us a short talk about some of their recent or most memorable ham activities. (I would appreciate your taking the initiative and letting me know in advance that you wish to speak, so the meeting can proceed smoothly.) Let's make the meetings interesting for our members and attract new ones, as well.

Our speaker in January will be George Beynen, WA6JKB. He will tell us about the challenges and triumphs he has experienced as a blind ham.

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## School Club Roundup
### David Brandon, KG6FR

Science teacher John, KD6URS, and I are once again planning to participate in this week-long contest from Berkeley's Jefferson School between Monday, February 13 and Thursday, February 16. We'll need some loans, particularly HF coax, an antenna, and a back-up HF rig. Anyone who can lend items or is interested in participating in any way is invited to contact me at 845-9559.

## Future Bay Area Events

- Livermore Swap Meet, 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College, 7 a.m. to noon, all year. Talk-in 147.045 Mhz. For more info, call Noel, KC6QZK, (510) 447-3857, evenings.
- EBARC-sponsored ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Session at the Alameda/ Contra Costa Blood Bank, Claremont Ave. near College in Oakland. Come on Sunday, Jan. 15th at 9:00 a.m. Bring $5.90, a photo id, your ham license and any CSCEs. You must also provide copies of your license and CSCEs that can be submitted with your test. The Novice test is free. If you wish to re-test for any element you might fail, an additional $5.90 will be necessary. These tests are now regularly scheduled on the third Sunday of every odd-numbered month.

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# We've Moved!

Monthly EBARC general meetings are now held at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave., Albany. The meeting place is about 1/4 of a block north of Solano Ave. on the west side of the street. Take the Albany exit from the I-80 freeway. Masonic Ave. is just west of the BART tracks, six blocks east of San Pablo Avenue. Since our new meeting place costs us $40 per night, it's ***extremely important*** to feed the kitty when you come to a meeting!

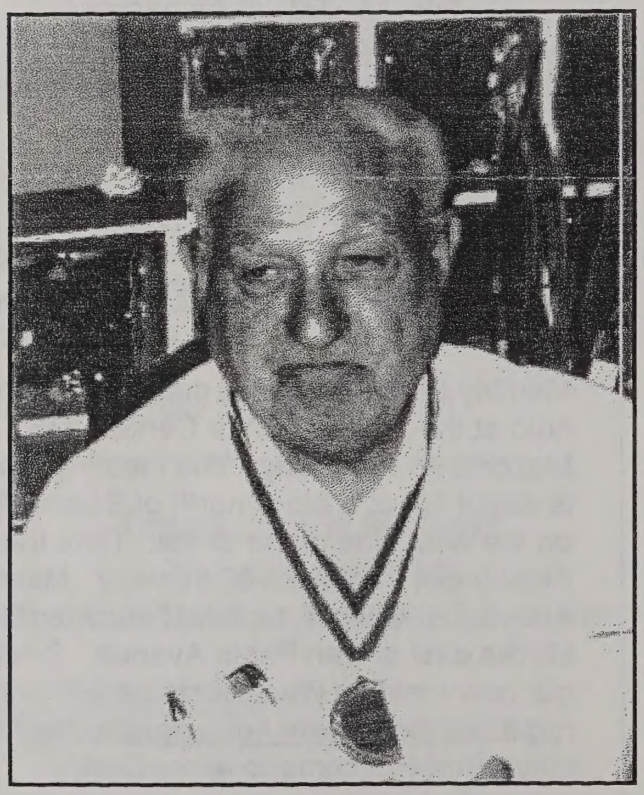
---

Best wishes from EBARC to Bob Uhrhammer, WB6VEX, who is recuperating quickly from successful back surgery!

## Improvements at the FCC

If you have an upgrade pending or are waiting for your first "ticket", the FCC now has a toll-free number you can use to contact their Gettysburg, PA office. The Customer Assistance Branch can be reached at (800) 322-1117 during business days 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. eastern time.

The FCC is in the last stages of a pilot project to test electronic filing of 610 forms by volunteer examiners. If all goes well, the new 610 filing process will go into effect in early 1995, and should shorten the time between examination and the issuance of an Amateur Radio license or upgrade.



Photos on this page were taken at the EBARC Holiday Dinner, Dec. 18, 1994.

## EC Desperately Needed!

Rachel Lewellen, KB6LHR, will soon be vacating her post as ARES/RACES Contra Costa County Emergency Coordinator. We can't afford to have such an important position unoccupied. Please volunteer to serve in this important position. Rachel will help you get started, if you hurry!

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc., founded in 1947, is a California non-profit corporation comprised of amateur radio operators in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The club is open to anyone interested in amateur radio. Annual dues are $20 for individual membership and $24 for a family membership. For information, call (510) 233-7509, contact any EBARC official, or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. The East Bay Amateur Radio Club maintains a club station, W6CUS, at the Richmond Red Cross. The packet station, W6CUS-1, is on 145.790 Mhz, and is linked to the EAST BAY LAN (EBAY) on 223.720 Mhz.

## 1995 EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB EXECUTIVE BOARD

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| NET | DAYS | LOCAL TIME | | FREQ, MHZ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
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| EBARC SSB Net | Weds | 2100 | | 28.395 |
| EBARC UHF Net | Tues | 1930 | (PL 127.3) | 444.450 |
| West Contra Costa County ARES/RACES Net | Thurs | 1845 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |
| Northern Alameda County ARES Net | Thurs | 1915 | | 147.48s |
| Contra Costa Communications Club Net | Thurs | 1930 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |
| Oakland ARES Emergency Communications Net | Thurs | 1930 | (PL 77) | 146.880 |
| "Over the Hill Gang" Breakfast/Commute Net | Mo-Fr | 0710 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |
| Northern Calif. Net VHF Session | Daily | 1930 | | 145.410 |
| "Going Home Group" | Mo-Fr | 1600 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |

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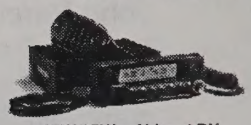

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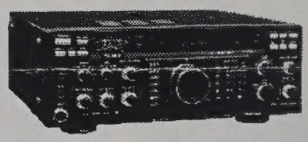

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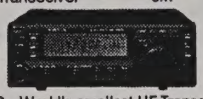

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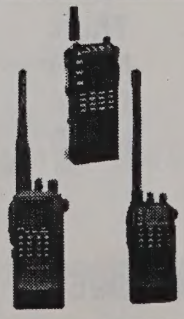

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THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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# THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME XLVIII NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 1995

## EBARC Meeting

February 10, 1995
7:00 p.m.

Examine the W6CUS Station
and Ham Swap Meet

Meet at W6CUS

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets this month **only** at the W6CUS Station,
American Red Cross Annex A & B, 3200 Macdonald Ave., Richmond
The Executive Board meets the first Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m.
at the home of Mel Hurley, KC6FAW, 137 Purdue Ave., Kensington.

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
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Deadline for March issue: Feb. 22

*[Articles can be submitted to the W6CUS packet bulletin board's AA6XZ mailbox, by dialing in to the editor's computer, by dictation over the 'phone, or by e-mail to primbsch@cmsa.berkeley.edu.]*

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## Message from the President

**Fred Nieman, KC6VLL**

Well, things are moving fairly fast in February. First of all, we find that the President can't read calendars. The correct date for the next meeting is Feb. 10th. We'll meet at the Red Cross Annex A/B, 3200 Macdonald Ave., Richmond. This will also be a swap meet night, so bring any ham related stuff you want to sell. *[EBARC wants 10% of your "take" as a donation. - Ed.]* I hope that we have a big crowd to look over the hard work that has been done at our W6CUS club station.

The next item of business is the crab feed at Eagles Hall in El Cerrito on Carlson near Central. This a fund raiser for a new HF rig for the station. Everyone should have received four tickets to sell and use. Please sell your tickets and help make this a fun social also. If you send me a check, please make it out to Fred Nieman. That way we can put it in the bank faster, and I won't have to bug Gordon every day for another expense check. If you have something around the house that might make a "neato" raffle gift, please bring it to the crab feed. I am also looking for a couple more bodies to help serve at the crab feed. So if I see you walking around at the next meeting with your hand up, I will know that you'll help. Thanks in advance.

The January meeting at Albany Senior Center was a *full* house. Boy, did we ever get the low down on "County Western". There were quite a few new faces (well, maybe not new) there. Three people came forward to become new members. Look around and see if you can find someone to bring to the meetings.

Dave, KG6FR, has lined up some good programs (if I don't mess him up), and is listening for more suggestions. How many of you know what Dave does to earn radio money? I might just ask that at the next meeting and give out lollipops for the correct answer. Speaking of jobs, if you need a service or need to buy something, think about what other hams do for a living, and use someone who shares your interests.

-73-
see ya

---

## The UC Berkeley Amateur Radio Club, W6BB

**Matthew Trail, KN6CR**

Perched high atop Eshleman Hall, an enticing distraction for its busy student and staff members, the UC Amateur Radio Club recently celebrated its 80th birthday. An early account reports that the club was formed in 1914 around efforts to receive

shortwave signals on a longwire antenna stretching from the top of the still-incomplete Campanile to a distant campus building.

One of the earliest club stations on the West Coast, 6BB (as it was known in those days) was apparently at the forefront of early Bay Area ham activities -- even helping the FCC clear the local airwaves of bootleggers in preparation for a New York to San Francisco mayoral relay in 1917. One of our female members reportedly received the first commercial wireless operator's license in 1924, and the club started broadcasting Big Games in 1916 (FCC rules were a bit laxer then!).

Since those adventurous early years, the club has had a colorful, if up and down, history. From ancient teletype machines now collecting dust in our warehouse; an HF beam and a repeater on top of Cory Hall; getting DXCC and running contests; helping with health, welfare, and charity communications; and running a SAREX contact at the Lawrence Hall of Science (with the help of other local hams); W6BB has had its hands in many different aspects of ham radio.

Currently, with about fifteen active members and many "in the woodwork", the club is active on HF and packet (we plan to set up a mailbox soon), and has recently tried its hand in satellite work and VHF/UHF contesting. We also enjoy operating Field Day with NALCO ARES/RACES. We are constantly seeking to attract new members and upgrade our station (donations welcome!), all the while encouraging a friendly atmosphere of fun, and further advancing our knowledge of the radio art.

We have many friends and alumni in the community, including in EBARC. We encourage any and all to drop by our shack or check in on 146.43 MHz (s) when you are in Berkeley. In particular, if any of you have any stories or archival information about W6BB, we'd *love* to hear from you! For those of you on the "infobahn", we can be reached at w6bb@violet.berkeley.edu. If you have any questions or would like to hear more about W6BB history, drop me a line at kn6cr@n6eeg (packet) or at 658-3647. Hope to talk to you on the air soon!


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## ARRL Renewal via EBARC

If you renew your ARRL membership through EBARC, our club gets to keep $2 of it, and it doesn't cost you one cent more! Just mail your paperwork and check (payable to EBARC) to Gordy, NU6W.

## Treasurer's Report
### January, 1994
### Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer

JANUARY INCOME

Regular Renewals: K6HYS, KE6HKQ, W6KNO, N6IIW, W6/EL2BG, K3MHD, KC6OMY, WD6GGD, AA6UX, W6THD, WA6ZFV, KB6LHR, KE6DVS, WI6O, W6DXG, W6JRZ, WB6VEX, KB6WC, N6VIF, KD6SXH, KD6AGA, N6AVB, WD6FRO, K6HVU ..... $480.00

Family Renewals: KG6FR Family, KC5IDS/KC5HHG ..... 48.00

New Members: Melvin Klein KE6NKZ; Ned Dairiki (no call); and Stanton Gleason, KD6SWU ..... 60.00

ARRL Renewal: KC6FAW ..... 24.00

Bicycle Club Donation ..... 250.00

Raffle Ticket Sales ..... 18.00

Coffee Kitty ..... 27.70

Total Jan. Income ..... $907.70

JANUARY DISBURSEMENTS

Blown Fuse Printing ..... $37.99

Blown Fuse Postage ..... 35.96

Cookies (Joe Lee) ..... 14.10

Cookies (David Brandon) ..... 12.00

Refreshments (Ron Smith) ..... 20.36

Room Rental (City of Albany) ..... 40.00

ARRL Renewal: (KC6FAW) ..... 22.00

Pacific Bell (W6CUS) ..... 15.84

W6CUS Construction (R. Hall) ..... 297.03

Total Jan. Disbursements ..... $495.28

BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS

Checking (General Fund) ..... $1,200.99

Savings (Station Fund) ..... $1,129.57

Dues are now payable. Please pay your 1995 membership, if you haven't already.

Remember to feed the Kitty!

---

## FCC Testing News

The ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) was instructed by the FCC on Jan. 13th to file all Form 610s electronically, by email, keeping the form itself at ARRL HQ. The ARRL had been sending diskettes with the hardcopy 610 forms. This "full" electronic filing will eventually result in FCC processing time as short as 2 to 3 days. For now, it should take less that 3 weeks to get your upgrade or license. Hooray, the days of the 3-month wait appear to be over!

---

## General Meeting Minutes
### January 13, 1995
### John Percival, WI6O, Secretary

The regular meeting of the East Bay Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:25 p.m. by President Fred Nieman, KC6VLL. Fred welcomed members and guests to the first meeting of 1995, and the first in our new meeting place at the Albany Senior Center. Guests: George Beynen, WA6JKB; Liz Charlton; Dick Gleason, WA6HYS; Stanton Gleason, KD6SWU; and Bennetta McLaughlin. Dick Gleason and his son Stanton became new members at this meeting.

Treasurer: Treasurer Gordy Parsons, NU6W, reminded members that membership renewals are due and said about 50% of members had renewed prior to this meeting. Sharon Primbsch AA6XZ, said anyone who does not renew by February 28 will be dropped from the roster and will not receive the March issue of *The Blown Fuse*.

Emergency Service: Rachel Lewellen, KB6LHR, said she is still looking for a volunteer to take over her role as

Emergency Coordinator for West Contra Costa County and said she would help someone get started in the position. She said the position requires attendance at a monthly EC's meeting in Pleasant Hill. Rachel announced there would be a Red Cross Disaster Services class given on Sat., Jan. 21, from 9 a.m. to noon. It will be a Shelter Operations Workshop intended for those who have taken the earlier classes: "Introduction to Disasters" and "Damage Assessment". Fred spoke about emergency service work that has been done in the flood areas of the North Bay counties.

Club Station: Ralph Hall, W6EFD, chairman of the Club Station Expansion Committee, reported that the remodeling project is essentially complete. The project totals thus far are 731 volunteer-hours and $3,083.79 expenses for materials. Tables, lighting, and rigs are now in place, but only temporary antenna coax connections have been made. Ralph said he plans to use new coax but that it will be expensive. The Red Cross has changed the locks on the Annex B entry door, so Ralph says we should now use our new entry door on the side of Annex A. He said this new door has been sticking due to the wet weather, but this problem will be corrected. President Fred said we will hold our February meeting at the new Club Station so everyone can see it.

Fund Raising: Fred is planning another Crab Feed to raise funds for new equipment at the Club Station. It will be held again at the Eagles Hall in El Cerrito near the end of February.

Education: Henry Primbsch, KK6PH, reminded us that VE test sessions will continue to be given in 1995 on the 3rd Sunday of odd numbered months at the Oakland Blood Bank. The first session will be Jan. 15th from 9 to 11 a.m., and the cost is $5.90 for any tests except the Novice level.

Miscellaneous: David Brandon, KG6FR, said he will lead a group operation at Jefferson School in Berkeley again this year in the "School Club Roundup" which was announced in the January *QST* magazine. David asked if anyone could loan an HF antenna and about 100' of coax for the event. Art McLaughlin, W6THD, mentioned the Western Public Service System Net on 3.952 MHz, every day of the year.

Program: Vern Orme, AA6YE, introduced the guest speaker George Beynen, WA6JKB, who spoke about his experiences in amateur radio as a blind ham. George also spoke about the beginnings of telegraphy and the early days of CW radio operation. His activities have included many years of traffic handling on CW nets. After the talk, First Vice President, David Brandon, presented George with a "Speaker's Award" certificate of appreciation.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m. for raffle drawings.

---

## School Club Roundup
### David Brandon, KG6FR

This 9th annual week-long activity encourages ham radio groups in schools across North America to contact as many stations as possible, and contributes to recognition of the educational value of ham radio. Two EBARC members will lead the activities as follows:

I (David, KG6FR) and teacher John Poole, KD6URS, will be at Jefferson School in

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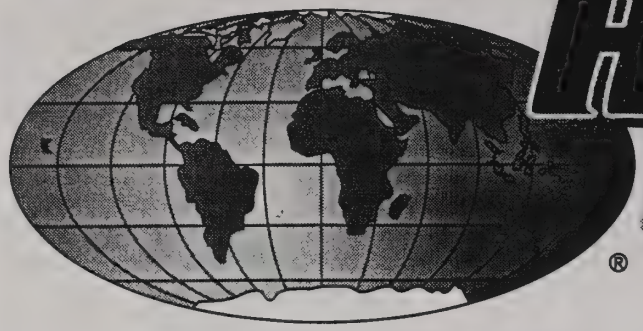

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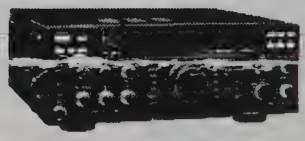

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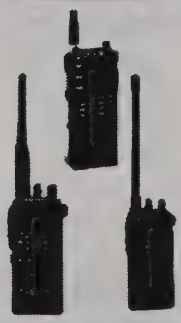

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CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME XLVIII NUMBER 3

MARCH 1995

## EBARC Meeting

March 10, 1995
7:00 p.m.

Bob Fabry, N6EK and Susan Taylor, KB6VVX
"Can this Marriage Survive another DXpedition?"

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets the second Friday of each month at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave. (near Solano), Albany. The Executive Board meets the first Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mel Hurley, KC6FAW, 137 Purdue Ave., Kensington.

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Deadline for April issue: Mar. 22

*[Articles can be submitted to the W6CUS packet bulletin board's AA6XZ mailbox, by dialing in to the editor's computer, by dictation over the 'phone, or by e-mail to primbsch@cmsa.berkeley.edu.]*

---

## Message from the President
### Fred Nieman, KC6VLL

Well, it sure was a great crowd at the open house at the club station. I wish the Red Cross had sent some people to see the great job done. We even sold some of the extra equipment that was around the station. I wish that more members had brought their items to sell. There were lots of buyers - maybe later in the year when we have another swap meet.

By the time you read this we will have "crabbed" and raised money for a new HF rig for the station. Thank you to all the members who either mailed me back tickets and money, or a least called me with a attendance count. When you are paying $10 just for crab for each ticket you think might be used, you can see that a wrong guess can cause a big loss.

Thanks to a member, we are paid up until mid-May for our meetings at Albany Senior Center. Thanks, and if he wants, we can say who it is at the next meeting.

The radio station at Ohlone School in Hercules is having a fund-raiser on March 16th to finance a tower. It is a spaghetti feed and cost $5 for adults and $3 for children (that's by age not the way you act). Make your check payable to "Ohlone PTA" and send it to the school at 1616 Pheasant Drive, Hercules CA, 94547. I understand that they have a nice station, and it will be operating that night. They have three or more young hams to date and are operating at noon time on the 511 machine. If you have any questions, call the school. The principal is a ham and is the driving force behind the station.

Remember, bring a friend to the EBARC meeting on March 10th.

---

## Report on Ninth Annual School Club Roundup
### David Brandon, KG6FR
### Ed Marshall, KC6NOY

**Jefferson Primary School, Berkeley:** Science teacher John Poole, KD6URS (ex-W1EEB) and KG6FR installed an R7 antenna on the roof on Thursday, with station operations beginning 9:30 a.m. Monday, Feb. 13th. We operated from the school library, using a Yaesu 890. Some contacts were made on 40 M, but we spent most of our time on 15 and 20 meters.

Six classes had "formal" operating sessions, including talking on the air, a briefing on radio propagation, and tracking MIR. We had planned to try a MIR contact, but there were no passes over Berkeley during our operating hours. Kids also dropped in during recess, lunch, and after school. They were particularly excited by

the competition among the various classes, designed by John, based on which states and provinces were contacted. Another attraction were the three chicks who shared the library with us. They were hatched two weeks earlier in the school. They spoke over the air, too, giving a whole new meaning to the phrase "chicken band."

We contacted 20 states plus Canada, Australia, Japan, Mexico, and Cuba. Some of the highlights of the operation were contacts with fourteen other school stations, ranging from New York to Florida to Arizona to British Columbia. We worked a Japanese school teacher, driving in his car on the way to school. This contact also made for an interesting discussion of time zones with the kids (why was he just going to school so late in the day?). One class wished "Happy Birthday" to 77-year old Karl in Emmett, ID, and we believed him when he said it brought tears to his eyes. We enjoyed our several contacts with Golden Gate School in Oakland. Thanks, too, to UC Amateur Radio Club's W6BB for an important college station contact on 2 meters. We appreciated the *Berkeley Voice's* announcement of this activity under "*BUSD Tidings*," and we also had a great time being interviewed by KALX reporter Fritz Ferber.

Special QSL cards are on their way to most of our contacts. Thanks to Sam Watson, N6VIF, for the loan of his R7 and a back-up rig; to EBARC's W6CUS for coax and a tripod; and to Fred Nieman, KC6VLL, who helped return gear.

**Golden Gate School, Oakland:** Oakland schools were closed Monday, and the station was set up early Tuesday morning in Ed's (KC6NOY's) Computer Lab. The equipment was a Kenwood TS830-S and dipole antennas, which were constructed at the school. Operations were initially limited to 15 M. Our very first contact was with Jefferson School. Wednesday afternoon. A 20 M dipole was constructed and put up in the computer lab. On Thursday, contacts were made on 20 and 15 meters.

We were able to demonstrate Amateur Radio to a number of classes at the school, ranging from 1st to 6th grade. Because regular computer lab activities were on-going, on-the-air time was very limited, and only a few contacts were made. However, three of those were with other schools. States contacted were CA, TX, AZ, and NY. DX stations included Canada and Aruba, both contacted on 20 meters.

We plan to follow up with the students and chart the locations of the stations worked on a map. We will be sending a certificate to the stations contacted during the contest. Although we did not operate on 10 M in the


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contest, a new 10 meter dipole antenna will be constructed and used with an HR 2600 tranceiver to put Golden Gate School on the air during the rest of the school year.

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## Treasurer's Report
### February, 1995
### Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer

FEBRUARY INCOME

| | |
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| New Members: KB6JXA, KO6JF, KE6QHW, KA6OHW, KE6MSF, Liz Charlton | $120.00 |
| Regular Renewals: KC6VLL, KF6FU, KD6ZIY, WA6ODB, KC6JAE, KC6NOY, N6GKY, KK6IJ, AA6VL, KC6ONS, HC2EU/KC6WAZ, AA6YE | 240.00 |
| Family Renewal: KB6JZM/KD6BAE | 24.00 |
| ARRL Renewals: KG6FR, KC6JCQ, KK6PH/AA6XZ | 82.00 |
| XMAS Dinner: KC5HHG, KC5IDS | 30.00 |
| Swap Meet Receipts | 326.50 |
| Coffee Kitty | 22.50 |
| Total Feb. Income | $845.00 |

FEBRUARY DISBURSEMENTS

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| Blown Fuse Postage | 40.00 |
| U.S. Postal Box Renewal | 40.00 |
| ARRL Renewals: KK6PH/AA6XZ, KG6FR, KC6JCQ | 76.00 |
| W6CUS Constr. (1/29/95) | 487.29 |
| W6CUS Constr. (2/10/95) | 123.49 |
| Pacific Bell (W6CUS) | 15.58 |
| Refreshments (Ron Smith) | 8.57 |
| Badge Engraving (Joe Lee) | 55.20 |
| Total Feb. Disbursements | $885.53 |

BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Checking (General Fund) | $1,444.74 |
| Savings (Station Fund) | $845.29 |

Remember to feed the Kitty!

---

## Welcome New Members!

The following people have recently joined EBARC: Sanford Lavine, KO6JF, likes DX ragchewing, scuba diving, and trap shooting. Liz Charlton doesn't have a call sign yet, but we feel sure she's working on it! Art Ribbel, KE6QHW, from Novato, likes packet. Jack Hall, KA6OHW, is Ralph Hall's son from Brentwood. Last, but not least, is Jon Lebeck, KB6JXA, who likes computers. Say "Hi" to these new members at our next meeting.

---

## General Meeting Minutes
### February 10, 1995
### John Percival, WI6O, Secretary

In place of a regular meeting, the East Bay Amateur Radio Club held an Open House at our Club Station in the Richmond Red Cross, Annex A and B. The occasion was to let our members and guests see the results of the remodeling project which began in August of last year. The new room is geared toward emergency communications with operating positions for VHF, UHF, and Packet Radio. HF equipment is set up in the original W6CUS Club Station area of Annex B.

The Open House was combined with a Flea Market/Swap Meet in the training room area of Annex B. The event was enjoyed by a good turnout of members and guests, with the roster sheet being signed by 26 members and 10 guests.

---

At this month's meeting, we'll hear from Bob Fabry, N6EK, and Susan Taylor, KB6VVX. They'll talk to us about their operation as J76EK and J76YL on a DXpedition to Dominica in March of 1993.

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Rachel Lewellen KB6LHR, ARES/RACES EC - West CoCoCo. ..233-5034
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Doug Cain N6JNK, Member-at-Large.....237-3294
Leo Lewis WA6ZFV, Member-at-Large.....233-5034
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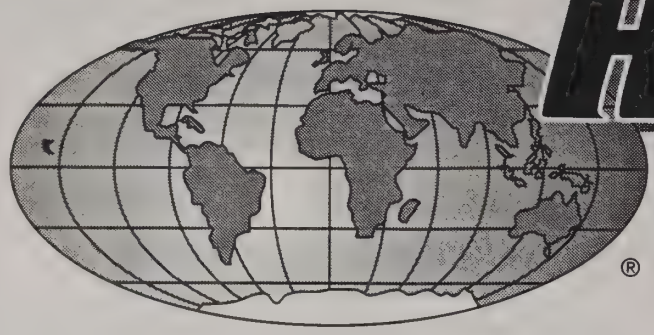

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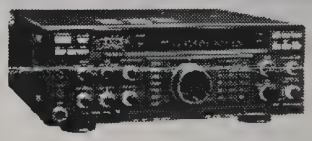

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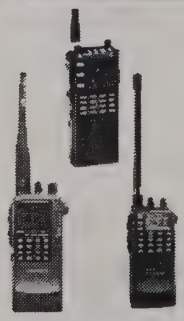

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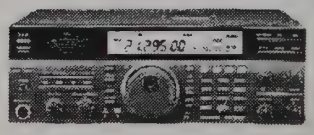

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THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

QLF

# THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME XLVIII NUMBER 4 APRIL1995

## EBARC Meeting

April 14, 1995
7:00 p.m.

Doc Gmelin, W6ZRJ and Al Gaetano, W6VZT
"The Doc and Al Dog and Pony Show"

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets the second Friday of each month at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave. (near Solano), Albany. The Executive Board meets the first Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mel Hurley, KC6FAW, 137 Purdue Ave., Kensington.

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
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*The Blown Fuse* is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is free to its members. *The Blown Fuse* welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. *The Blown Fuse* reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of *The Blown Fuse*. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

Deadline for May issue: Apr. 26

*[Articles can be submitted to the W6CUS packet bulletin board's AA6XZ mailbox, by dialing in to the editor's computer, by dictation over the 'phone, or by e-mail to primbsch@cmsa.berkeley.edu.]*

---

## Phonetic Alphabet Changes

In a spirit of cooperation, the FCC has revised Part 97 to agree to the ITU's new proposal for making the phonetic alphabet more international. The new alphabet is below, with pronunciation aids for native speakers of English. The changes go into effect internationally on April 1st.

A are
B bdellium (DELL-EE-UM)
C czar
D Djakarta (JAH-KAR-TAH)
E ewe
F 💣
G gnome
H heir
I Iwo-Jima (EE-WOH-GEE-MAH)
J jalapeño (HAH-LAH-PAY-NYOH)
K knight
L llama (YAH-MAH)
M mnemonic
N n'gana (ENG-AH-NAH)
O Oaxaca (WAH-HAH-KAH)
P pneumatic
Q quesadilla (KAY-SAH-DEEL-YAH)
R =E÷I
S sgraffito (ZAH-GRAH-FEE-TOH)
T tsunami (SOO-NAH-MEE)
U urgent
V 5 (Roman numeral)
W wretched
X xylophone
Y Ypsilanti (Michigan)
Z Zsa Zsa

💣 Note: The FCC has prohibited the "F" word as obscene (Part 97.0401).

*[Are pneumatic =E÷I Iwo-Jima llama 💣 Oaxaca Oaxaca llama sgraffito! de Kit Chantarotwong, KB6JZM; Liz Charlton; Art McLaughlin, W6THD; Bennetta McLaughlin; Henry Primbsch, KK6PH; Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ; Greg Small, KD6SXH; and Jamie Wasson, AB6WJ]*

---

## April Meeting Speakers

At this month's meeting, we'll hear from Doc Gmelin, W6ZRJ and Al Gaetano, W6VZT. Doc and Al will provide insight and anecdotes from their years of activities with ARRL. Don't miss this great show!

Martha and Mel Hurley at the Crab Feed

## Message from the President
### Fred Nieman, KC6VLL

Well, we raised about $1,200 with the crab feed. Thanks to those who helped that evening. We have one small problem. The equipment committee looked at what we need to complete the major part of the station and found that it cost $2,200. We have put out the letters to a couple of the big daddies of the area for help. I would like to see us do most of it ourselves, so I am asking for donations to the station fund from the members. If you feel like you can help, send any amount to the PO box, or better yet, bring it to the next meeting April 14th at the Albany Senior Center on Masonic just north of Solano.

The time has come to start thinking about Field Day, which is the last weekend in June. Ray Gillett, KF6FU, and "friends" have agreed to chair this annual event. The members need to plan to spend some time out there operating. Remember that we use the club call for the event, which means that you don't have to have the ticket to operate all bands. If you want to do CW, it would help if you know what a "T" and "E" sound like. The weekend is a lot of fun and makes for a good family activity. The family might as well meet the odd people you talk to all the time.

David Brandon, KG6FR, is doing a *great* job with the programs, so come by the meetings and listen for yourself.

There has been some talk of getting together a group to work a contest or two from the club station. If you are interested, talk to Ralph Hall, W6EFD, and let's start the contesting. To help that out, there's a rumor that we will soon be the proud new owners of a 72-foot crank-up tower and a 7-element beam with rotor! Of course, we have to take it down from where it is now, and put it up at the club station.


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## General Upgrade Class
### Henry Primbsch, KK6PH, Education Chair

It's here! The long-awaited EBARC class for a General amateur radio license will start April 19th and last through May. The class will be taught by me, Art McLaughlin, W6THD, and Jamie "The Fist" Wasson, AB6WJ. The class will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., except for May 10th.

The class is free and will be taught at the Photowork Studio, 2946 San Pablo Ave.

(near Ashby), Berkeley (510) 548-0606. The studio is in the Berkeley Business Center (the old Heinz building) at 2900 San Pablo Ave. This is a large warehouse located between Ashby and Heinz on the west side of San Pablo Ave. Enter through the door in the middle of the block, on San Pablo Ave. Proceed up the stairs to the second floor. Follow the suite numbers down the hallway to #2946.

The instructors will assume that you have acquired a current copy of *The ARRL General Class License Manual*, and that you can copy 5 wpm Morse Code. The CW instruction will proceed from 5 wpm to about 15 wpm by the end of the class. There will *not* be enough CW practice time during class meetings, so you will need to practice a little every day on your own in order to keep up with the pace.

Please tell your friends about the class. We need at least eight students to make the class worth holding. For more information or to sign up, contact me at (510) 741-8227.

---

## New EBARC Roster
### Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, Membership Chair

You've probably noticed that this issue of *The Blown Fuse* contains a new membership roster. People who were paid members as of mid-March are listed. Please examine your entry, and report any errors to me. If each EBARC member will tell me of any changes in address, call sign, name, telephone, etc., I'll correct the membership records, and notify everybody via *The Blown Fuse.*

---

## New EBARC Member

Paul Sullivan, KE6NMJ, recently joined EBARC. He has a Technician license. Introduce yourself to him at our next meeting. Welcome Paul!

---

EBARC desperately needs a Publicity Chair. We'd like to expand our membership and be more visible to the general public. If you're interested, contact Fred Nieman, KC6VLL.

---

## EBARC Members Upgrade!

Three EBARC members upgraded at the ARRL VE Amateur Radio test session held March 19th. Lloyd Albright, KE6IAS, upgraded from Tech Plus to General. Ron Smith, KE6HKQ, upgraded from Tech to Tech Plus. The glutton for punishment, Liz Charlton, went from nothing to General. We'll bet she can't wait to get a call sign!

Because of these three people, the "hot off the presses" EBARC roster enclosed with this newsletter is already out of date!

---

## Traffic Handlers Wanted!

If you are a CW operator, either slow speed or high speed, the National Traffic System needs you. If you're interest in traffic handling, contact Joe Lee, WB6DOB.

---

Lots of us see familiar faces at EBARC meetings, but can't connect them to a name or call sign. To encourage you to wear your EBARC badge to a meeting, you'll get one extra ticket free if you buy at least one raffle ticket!

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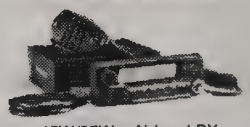

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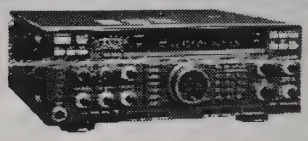

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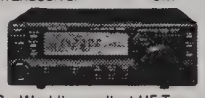

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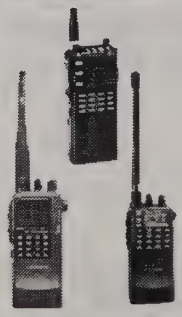

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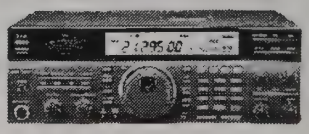

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THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

QLF

# THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME XLVIII NUMBER 5

MAY1995

## EBARC Meeting

May 12, 1995
7:00 p.m.

Kate Hora, FCC Public Affairs Specialist
"Questions and Answers"

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets the second Friday of each month at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave. (near Solano), Albany. The Executive Board meets the first Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mel Hurley, KC6FAW, 137 Purdue Ave., Kensington.

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
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*The Blown Fuse* is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is free to its members. *The Blown Fuse* welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. *The Blown Fuse* reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of *The Blown Fuse*. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

Deadline for June issue: May 24

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## From Code Oscillator to Ship's Operator

### Alan Craddock, WB6DXZ

It was summer of 1968, and I was on a flight from Oakland to Los Angeles. The assignment I had from Matson Lines was to join the ship *SS Lurline* at Wilmington in the capacity of Assistant Radio Operator, for a voyage to Hawaii and back to San Francisco. I seem to recall having a severe case of "chicken" on this flight, which was alleviated somewhat by a couple of gin and tonics from the drink cart! But there was no turning back now. I was on my way with my brand new 2nd class radiotelegraph license, the mandatory Coast Guard Officers' license, and the Z card (seaman's id) the Coast Guard issued. I did not acquire an amateur license for about a year after this, and I had never operated a transmitter before. So I would be making the jump from code oscillator to actual on-air operation as a professional, and I had the papers to prove it! Turn this plane around!!

Incidentally, when you get the FCC license, the CG license is granted for as long as the FCC one is kept valid and current. But keeping current isn't as easy as I thought it would be (is *any* official document?). I recall chasing all over San Francisco one Saturday afternoon with my friend Vic, looking for three people to go as character references. Luckily he knew people around there. One was his barber and another was one of his shipmates. We had a deadline because his ship was sailing that night. If I remember rightly, it was an MSTS vessel in the days when they ran the ships back and forth to Vietnam. Later on, they used air lifts, and left the ships out in the Far East on permanent assignment.

I met Vic when we studied code together at Laney College in Oakland. They had a great setup there; 6 Kleinschmidt code machines, all running at different speeds, (max 60 wpm) with the classroom desks set up like radio operator's stations. You could switch to any other person's position and communicate with key and headphones just like the real thing (almost). The instructor could communicate with anybody from his office, by Morse Code, of course. There was also a machine that made a tape of your sending, so you could see the dot, dash, and space lengths. It dispelled any illusions about how great your code was!

Vic got his license three months ahead of me, but it was to be four years later before I wound up in MSC (as the Military Sealift Command was called by then). Vic was hauled in the door when he showed up with his license, but by three months later, the demand had dried up. He tipped me off about an opening coming up finally, and I was flown out to Fukoka and joined him on his ship. We did one voyage together.

Well the *Lurline* was at Wilmington. So after landing at LAX, I somehow found my way to Long Beach via public transport. It was a long wait for the Wilmington bus during a hot day, but I finally made it. I

started walking about the mile or so to the ship, carrying a fairly heavy bag. Luckily, someone took pity on me and gave me a ride all the way to the gangway. It didn't take me long after this to learn to just take a cab from the airport all the way to the ship, and put it on the expense account!

The ship looked awful big and foreboding, but I walked onto it. The Chief Radio Officer came down to greet me show me the radio room and my room. My room was quite adequate, with a wash basin, toilet and shower. There was a small desk and a comfortable bed. (The second night out, I had rainwater coming into my cabin all over my bunk, so they gave me one of the passengers' staterooms. Not bad!)

When the Chief and I walked into the radio room that first day, I was taken aback. Almost the whole opposite wall was taken up floor to ceiling with transmitters. I remember the Chief saying not to be scared by the size of all the stuff. I had explained to him that I had never operated a "real" station before. I was pretty lucky to have hit this particular Chief. A nicer guy you couldn't wish for, and he patiently explained how it all worked, trying to make me feel at ease.

The radio receivers (one MF and one HF) were flanking the operating position on each side. There were switches to control the transmitters, which were all pretuned to assigned frequencies. There was also an AM radiotelephone on another wall, with a calling frequency of 2182 Kc, a distress frequency monitored by the Coast Guard (along with 500 Kc on CW). The R/T was a big stand-up console type thing with different switch positions for the various working frequencies. There was also a lifeboat transmitter/receiver which had to be cranked for power. Everything was tubes, of course. In addition, there was a 24-hour clock, and charging controls for the batteries. The operating position had a glass sliding door in front of it so that the passengers could file telegrams for transmission, for which we had to figure the number of words and collect the cash.

There were four of us in the radio department, a Chief and three assistants. The Chief does not stand a watch. The assistants do two 4-hour watches apiece, so there is continuous 24-hour watch on 500 Kc, as required by law for passenger vessels. I didn't run into the other two guys until later that day at lunch. Afterwards, we all piled into a cab and went over to San Pedro, a seaman's town. At that time, San Pedro still had colorful bars all over the place, so we picked one, and proceeded to reduce their stock of booze. Good thing nothing happened to us, because the whole Radio Department was together, and the ship could not move without us! Anyway,


THE BASE STATION

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| | | |
|---|---|---|
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this was a pretty good welcoming party, I thought. All the guys were fairly easy to get along with. The ship didn't sail until later in the afternoon, so we had plenty of time.

I was assigned the 12 midnight to 4 a.m. watch. It was nice and quiet at night, and by skipping one meal, I could get a good, uninterrupted sleep. There was a movie theater aboard which I could go to, but mingling with the passengers was supposed to be out. Only the Chief could do that. The assistants were restricted to the one deck where passengers were not allowed. However, I broke the rules one night and did a little mingling with my civvies on. The rest of the time, we wore khaki uniforms until the 3rd day out, when we changed into the whites.

I found that actual operating was not much different to playing at it like we did at Laney College. Just had to imagine one of your classmates was on the other end instead of an operator at KPH, which was the station we worked. They used to have reams of messages for us every day, and there was the same outgoing volume. KPH operators were and are, very professional, as well as patient. The Chief also kept a close watch on me at first, and after a couple of days I began to feel pretty comfortable with it. I used a straight key at first, later going to a bug. The Chief had a fully automatic keyer on his desk, and when there was no traffic, I used to practice copying a letter that was laying there alongside it. Then one day, I was messing with his keyer, and he bet me I could not use it. I took him on, and surprised him quite a bit, when I tore into the letter on his desk, which I had down pretty pat, (only he didn't know that HI HI)!

Included in our duties was copying the daily news from WCC NY. They sent at 25 wpm, and I had some difficulty with this in spite of the fact that I had used this broadcast to practice code when studying for my license. At least I was familiar with the format. People from the ship's print shop would be standing by to take my copy and print it in the ship's newspaper for distribution to the passengers at breakfast the next morning. WCC sent highlights of the world news along with selected stock market reports.

Diamond Head in Hawaii looked wonderful to me. It was the first time I had seen it. We docked at Pier 10. The *Lurline* was an "at sea" ship. I only had a few hours to look around, but it was enjoyable. We docked at 10 a.m., and sailed at 4 p.m. for San Francisco. In those days, there were the Hawaiian brass band, the hula girls, paper streamers, and all, for the departure. Five days later, I was back in San Francisco, feeling flushed with victory, having just graduated from code oscillator to ship's operator. There were to be several more unforgettable trips for me coming up on that great ship, the *Lurline*.

---

## Message from the President

### Fred Nieman, KC6VLL

Thanks to the work of Ed Bear, KE6DVS; Henry Primbsch, KK6PH; Bob Szentimrey, KC6QCG; Stanton Gleason, KD6SWU; Sam Watson, N6VIF; Leo Lewis, WA6ZFV; and Mike Fahmie, WA6ZTY; we are the proud new owners of a 70-foot crank-up tower. Pretty soon the W6CUS station will be the "bestest in the westest". We are still short a few dollars of having the money to complete the purchase of the equipment needed, so if you have some after-tax dollars you can spare, please send them.

If you missed the "Doc and Al" show at the last meeting, you missed a great program and a great turnout. You also missed talking to the other hams, which is still the best part of the meetings for most of us.

Please come to meetings, and find out what you are missing.

Ray Gillett, KF6FU, has the Field Day operation under way. According to his report, so far, we will not starve and we'll be secure, but we need people to man the stations and have a good time. If you have not worked on a Field Day, this is your chance. If it's been a while, now is the time to come out and "ham for a day".

Vern Orme, AA6YE, states that he will have a report at the next meeting about our annual date with the ants and, of course, the food. This club offers a lot for you. Come out, join in, and enjoy. Your help is always needed. Please come and bring a friend.

---

## W6CUS Club Station Update
### Ralph Hall, W6EFD

The club's ailing Ham IV antenna rotor has been repaired *[by Ralph Hall ...Ed.]*. Thanks to Jack Hall, KA6OHW, it's now back on top of the tower under the original beam antenna. We're still waiting for the ICOM-738 transciever (but we *do* have the money for it).

---

## General Meeting Minutes
### March 10, 1995
### John Percival, WI6O, Secretary

The regular meeting of the East Bay Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Fred Nieman, KC6VLL. Fred welcomed members and guests to this meeting held at the Albany Senior Center. Fred announced that our 3rd Vice President Todd Meyers, KE6AXC, had to resign. Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, has been appointed to fill the office, but she would like to give the publicity part of the post to a volunteer, since she is the Editor of our newsletter, *The Blown Fuse.*

Guests: Larry Doyle, WB6CTQ; Dick Gleason, WA6HYS; Mel Klein, KE6NKZ; and Paul Sullivan, KE6NMJ, who became a new member at this meeting.

Treasurer: Treasurer Gordy Parsons, NU6W, reminded members that membership renewals are due and said about 50% of members had renewed prior to this meeting. Sharon Primbsch AA6XZ, said anyone who does not renew by February 28 will be dropped from the roster and will not receive the March issue of *The Blown Fuse.*

Emergency Service: President Fred announced that Sam Watson, N6VIF, is our new Emergency Coordinator for West Contra Costa County taking over for Rachel Lewellen, KB6LHR. Sam announced that the Grizzly Peak Bike Ride group has requested our help with communications for the upcoming Grizzly Peak Century Bike Ride to be held on May 7th. Sam has information for anyone who would like to volunteer. Sam also said RACES members need to sign a new Oath of Allegiance for this year. He has the form people need to sign.

Club Station: Ralph Hall, W6EFD, chairman of the Club Station Expansion Committee, reported that he brought some old technical manuals from the Club Station that are no longer needed. He said the material would be discarded and offered it to any interested members. Ralph said the antenna rotor at the station had not been working, but after he looked into it, he found that it works fine.

Fund Raising: President Fred said the Crab Feed fund raiser for the Club Station

was successful, and now we are looking to buy some new HF equipment. He said additional funds will be needed for the equipment the committee is considering, so we are seeking additional donations from our members or possible corporate donations.

Education: Henry Primbsch, KK6PH, said an upgrade class will start sometime in the next month or so and will run for about two months. This class will meet two nights a week and the start date will be announced as soon as it is set. Henry also reminded us that a VE test session will be given this month at the Oakland Blood Bank.

Field Day: Fred said several people have expressed interest in leading or helping with Field Day this year. Rich Parker, KD6JCT, offered to help again this year with security at the site.

Program: David Brandon, KG6FR, introduced the guest speakers Bob Fabry, N6EK, and Susan Taylor, KB6VVX, who gave a fascinating talk and slide show about their DXpedition/vacation to Dominica in 1993. During their two week stay on Dominica, Bob and Susan operated in the 1993 ARRL DX Contest as J76EK and J76YL respectively, and made 5,662 contacts. The talk was very warmly received by the members and guests present. After the talk, First Vice President, David Brandon presented Bob and Susan with "Speaker's Award" certificates of appreciation.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 p.m. for raffle drawings.

---

## Treasurer's Report
### March, 1995
### Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer

MARCH INCOME

| | |
|---|---|
| New Member: KE6NMJ | $20.00 |
| Regular Renewals: KE6FGM, AB6VB, N6IHU, K3MHD, KC6FAW, W6FDF, and AB6WJ | 140.00 |
| Family Renewals: KC6SOG/KD6PLM, KN6OJ/KD6GEC, and W6NGE/Eileen | 72.00 |
| Scratcher Ticket Sales: | 20.00 |
| Club Station Fund Donation: | 50.00 |
| ARRL Renewals: KF6FU, K3MHD | 60.00 |
| Coffee Kitty | 29.25 |
| Crab Feed Receipts: | 1,155.00 |
| Total Mar. Income | $1,546.25 |

MARCH DISBURSEMENTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Blown Fuse Printing | $31.18 |
| Blown Fuse Postage | 33.92 |
| Refreshments | 8.19 |
| W6CUS Station Alarm System | 296.00 |
| Pacific Bell (W6CUS) | 16.02 |
| ARRL Renewals: KF6FU, K3MHD | 56.00 |
| Total Mar. Disbursements | $441.31 |

BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Checking (General Fund) | $1,620.68 |
| Savings (Station Fund) | $1,774.29 |

Be sure to renew your ARRL membership through EBARC! The $2.00 commission our club gets may seem small, but it does add up when everyone participates. The ARRL is there for us, so let's be there for it!

---

## General Meeting Minutes
### April 14, 1995
### S. Primbsch, AA6XZ, Acting Sect'y

The regular EBARC meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by President Fred Nieman, KC6VLL. Guests: Bennetta McLaughlin; Rich Parker, KD6JCT; and Mike Fahmie, WA6ZTY.

Membership: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ asked members to contact her if information in the recently printed roster was incorrect. She'll keep us up to date in *The Blown Fuse* hereafter.

Emergency Coordinator: Sam Watson, N6VIF, said that the April 22nd ARES/RACES training session has been canceled. On April 26th from 3:30-5:00 p.m., there will be an OES meeting in Martinez. Sam also reported that the Red Cross' new training schedule is available (for classes between Apr. 21 and Jun. 24th.) They will teach hams some of their courses for free, beginning with "Intro to Disaster Services". Sam also said there's a siren installation program under way in West County. He will learn more about it and then inform us.

Club Station: Doug Cain, N6JNK, reported that the new HF rig for the club station, an ICOM-738, has been ordered, but has not yet arrived. Fred Nieman, KC6VLL, said there's now a 70-foot crank-up tower in the grass alongside the club station. It was donated by a silent key's relatives, then dismantled and brought to the club station by volunteers. The club also got a 7-element HF beam and a Ham IV rotor as part of the deal. At the same site, there's a smaller tower which will be dismantled and then go to a school in San Francisco. Fred also reported no news regarding the status of the W6CUS trusteeship. (Bob Uhrhammer, WB6VEX, had submitted trusteeship paperwork to the FCC several months ago.)

Field Day: Ray Gillett, KF6FU, reported that we'll have Field Day at Berkeley North Waterfront Park again this year. The dates are June 23rd through 25th. Doug Cain, N6JNK, has agreed to be CW Chair. John Percival, WI6O, will be the SSB Chair. We'll probably have VHF/UHF positions, perhaps with satellite and ATV. There will also be a Novice station. There was some talk about an additional 10-15 wpm "slower speed" CW operating position. Antennas and masts are needed, as are lots of operators! We may also want to consider passing traffic for the public as part of our Field Day activities.

Education: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, and Jamie Wasson, AB6WJ, reported that a General upgrade class will start April 19th. There's also a need for another Novice and Technician class, but instructors are needed. Fred, KC6VLL, reminded us that there's still an interest by the El Cerrito NEAT group to be trained as hams.

Grizzly Peak Bike Race: Sam Watson, N6VIF, reminded everyone about the May 7th bike race. He'll be mailing information to those who have volunteered.

Program: Doc Gmelin, W6ZRJ, is a past Director of ARRL. Al Gaetano, W6VZT, is a past Vice-Director of ARRL. Between them, we heard some humorous "war stories", and we heard about problems they believe are affecting amateur radio today.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m. for raffle drawings.

---

## Treasurer's Report
### April, 1995
### Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer

APRIL INCOME

| | |
|---|---|
| New Member: Robert J. Gilkey, KE6SKD | $20.00 |
| Membership Renewals: KA6SOC, N6DIG, AA6ZA, and N6IHU | 80.00 |
| W6CUS Station Fund Donation: | 20.00 |
| Scratcher Tickets | 27.00 |
| Total April Income | $147.00 |

APRIL DISBURSEMENTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Club Roster Printing | $31.82 |
| Blown Fuse Printing | 33.77 |
| Blown Fuse Postage | 38.08 |
| Dinner for Guest Speakers | 20.00 |
| Pacific Bell (W6CUS) | 16.39 |
| Worldradio Inc. (Club Listing) | 60.00 |
| Total April Disbursements | $200.06 |

BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Checking (General Fund) | $1,520.62 |
| Savings (Station Fund) | $1,821.29 |

As Treasurer of EBARC since January 1984, I've noticed that a substantial percentage of the membership neglects to pay its club dues before the December 31st deadline. A few people are still paying their dues, in spite of the fact that we are well into the year. Our club By-laws state that only members in good standing (that is they have paid their dues on time) may vote at club meetings. Every year, it seems, the first quarter of the year often has had questionable legality in voting, because so many people simply haven't paid their dues. Please remember to pay your dues on time in the future.

---

## EBARC Roster Update

### Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, Membership Chair

Here are some corrections and additions to the membership roster enclosed with last month's *Blown Fuse*.

- Jamie Wasson, AB6WJ, holds an Extra, not an Advanced license.
- Gayle Jones, KE6MSF, lives at 2767 Bowhill Lane (not 2762)
- Tom Murphy, N6IHU, has renewed. He lives at 15929 Via Alamitos, San Lorenzo, 94580. He has a Technician license, and his phone is 276-2433
- Ed Bear, KE6DVS, has an Advanced, not a Technician license
- Liz Charlton, now has call sign KE6SKK, and holds a General ticket
- Toshinnari Katayama, AB6VB, has renewed. He lives at 2221 Parker St., #A, Berkeley, 94704. He has an Extra license, and his phone is 841-0721
- Robert (Don) Seifers, KE6FGM has renewed. He lives at 1291 Sanderling Island, Pt. Richmond, 94801. He has a Tech Plus license, and his phone is 232-0150
- Sue Ludemann, KA6SOC, has renewed. She lives at 6815 Del Monte Ave., Richmond, 94805. She has an Extra license, and her phone is 234-0717
- Jim Loughridge, AA6ZA, has renewed. He lives at 620 Vallejo Ave., Rodeo, 94572. He has an Extra license, and his phone is 799-2468
- **NEW MEMBER!** Please welcome Robert J. Gilkey, KE6SKD, to EBARC. He lives at 1416 #B Ninth St., Alameda, 94501. He has a Technician license, and his phone is 865-9159. He likes 2 meters, and is learning CW so he can upgrade. His non-ham interests are camping, boating, hiking, exploring, fishing, gold panning, dirt biking, carpentry, and house painting. Whew! Welcome to EBARC Robert!

---

## May Meeting "Q & A"

Kate Hora, a Public Affairs Specialist from the FCC in Hayward, will be our May speaker. She prefers a question and answer format for her presentation, so think up all those things you'd like to ask an FCC representative! (For instance, "What do I do when my neighbor knocks on my door to report RFI interference?")

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc., founded in 1947, is a California non-profit corporation comprised of amateur radio operators in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The club is open to anyone interested in amateur radio. Annual dues are $20 for individual membership and $24 for a family membership. For information, call (510) 233-7509, contact any EBARC official, or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. The East Bay Amateur Radio Club maintains a club station, W6CUS, at the Richmond Red Cross. The packet station, W6CUS-1, is on 145.790 Mhz, and is linked to the EAST BAY LAN (EBAY) on 223.720 Mhz.

## 1995 EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB EXECUTIVE BOARD

Fred Nieman KC6VLL, President.....223-1748
David Brandon KG6FR, 1st VP - Program Chair.....845-9559
Ron Smith KE6HKQ, 2nd VP - Hospitality Chair.....724-5099
Sharon Primbsch, 3rd VP - Membership / Blown Fuse Editor.....741-8227
John Percival WI6O, Secretary.....232-8111
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Sam Watson N6VIF, ARES/RACES EC - West CoCoCo.....223-6408
Ralph Hall W6EFD, Club Station Chair and Chief Elmer.....232-0727
Henry Primbsch KK6PH, Education Chair.....741-8227
Vern Orme AA6YE, Social Committee Chair.....233-4504
???, Publicity Chair.....
Joe Lee WB6DOB, Awards Chair.....724-0533
Bob Uhrhammer, W6CUS Trustee-designate.....525-1447
Ray Gillett KF6FU, Chair, Digital and RFI Committees.....799-5221
Ray Gillett KF6FU (and helpers), Field Day Chair.....799-5221
Harry Bier WA6TNI, Historian.....372-6755
John Billones WD6GGC, Member-at-Large.....237-1272
Doug Cain N6JNK, Member-at-Large.....237-3294
Leo Lewis WA6ZFV, Member-at-Large.....233-5034
Mel Hurley KC6FAW, Member-at-Large.....526-2868

## AMATEUR RADIO NETS

| NET | DAYS | LOCAL TIME | | FREQ, MHZ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| EBARC Slow CW Net | Weds | 2000 | | 21.115 |
| EBARC SSB Net | Weds | 2100 | | 28.395 |
| EBARC UHF Net | Tues | 1930 | (PL 127.3) | 444.450 |
| Women's Amateur Roundtable | Weds | 2000 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |
| West Contra Costa County ARES/RACES Net | Thurs | 1845 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |
| Northern Alameda County ARES Net | Thurs | 1915 | | 147.48s |
| Contra Costa Communications Club Net | Thurs | 1930 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |
| Oakland ARES Emergency Communications Net | Thurs | 1930 | (PL 77) | 146.880 |
| "Over the Hill Gang" Breakfast/Commute Net | Mo-Fr | 0710 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |
| Northern Calif. Net VHF Session | Daily | 1930 | | 145.410 |
| "Going Home Group" | Mo-Fr | 1600 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |

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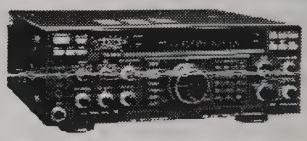

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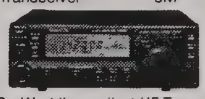

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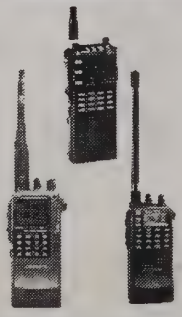

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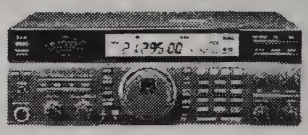

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THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

QLF

# THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME XLVIII NUMBER 6

JUNE1995

## EBARC Meeting

June 9, 1995
7:00 p.m.

Ray Gillett, KF6FU, and a cast of "thousands"
EBARC Field Day Final Planning

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets the second Friday of each month at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave. (near Solano), Albany. The Executive Board meets the first Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mel Hurley, KC6FAW, 137 Purdue Ave., Kensington.

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*The Blown Fuse* is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is free to its members. *The Blown Fuse* welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. *The Blown Fuse* reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of *The Blown Fuse*. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

Deadline for July issue: Jun. 28

*[Articles can be submitted to the W6CUS packet bulletin board's AA6XZ mailbox, by dialing in to the editor's computer, by dictation over the 'phone, or by e-mail to primbsch@cmsa.berkeley.edu.]*

---

## Message from the President
### Fred Nieman, KC⑥VLL

Sorry I missed the last meeting, but the boss thought it would be a good idea to spend a Friday night with her. Thanks Ray, KF6FU, for doing your normal great job with the meeting. I hope that those attending learned all they wanted to learn about FCC but where afraid to ask.

It's Field Day time again, and I hope that everyone plans to spend a least a little time out among the ants, tents, and radio waves at the Berkeley marina the last weekend of June. This is a good time to come out and relax, talk, and really "meet" your fellow hams and (hopefully) their families. I know well that this a contest, and to some it is. However, I hope that it also can be a training ground for new hams to operate and to improve their form. It is also a time to attract new people to our hobby. If you see someone you don't know, make them feel welcome and offer to help them learn.

This time of year also starts the mobile ham fun time. Your family may call it a vacation, but we all know that it is really a time for hams to fix up the mobile station and talk around the country. Instead of letting the kids count blue trucks, how about having them send packet messages back to their friends through NTS? When they get home they can check and see how many of messages got through!

You'll come to the next meeting, and bring a friend.

---

## Field Day Alert! - CQ FD
### Greg Small, KD6SXH, Novice Captain

The Novice Tent needs you. I know that there are at least 14 Tech Pluses and Novices out there, thanks to the new roster! Techs and unlicensed beginners are also welcome, since there will be a TechPlus control operator present.

Field Day is a great time to use your CW. The Field Day message format is short and simple. If you have never pounded a key or worked HF, there are many experienced operators to help you out and back you up. contacts are made by sending or responding to "CQ FD" calls in the Novice bands using the Novice Captain's call sign. The two parties then exchange their Class and Section abbreviations. For instance:

CQ FD CQ FD DE KD6SXH R
KD6SXH DE KA7BXA 2A AZ AR
KA7BXA DE KD6SXH 1A EB AR
TU SK

Usually one person operates while another logs and checks the "dupe" sheets. (Only one contact per station is allowed in each

Novice band.) If you don't want to operate, come help with logging and dupe sheets.

There are many other activities, HF CW and HF SSB Tents, VHF, ATV, food .... Come any time, or stay the whole 24 hours. Bring family or friends. Setup is about 12 noon on Friday, June 23. The contest starts 11 a.m. Saturday, June 24 and continues 24 hours through 11 a.m. Sunday. Then we pack up and clear out.

---

## Treasurer's Report
### May, 1995
### Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer

MAY INCOME

| | |
|---|---|
| New Members: KE6SZG, KD6JCT, and John C. Tim | $60.00 |
| Raffle Ticket Sales | 22.00 |
| Coffee Kitty (April) | 17.25 |
| Coffee Kitty (May) | 22.00 |
| Total May Income | $121.25 |

MAY DISBURSEMENTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Blown Fuse Printing | $53.48 |
| Blown Fuse Postage | 40.64 |
| Pacific Bell (W6CUS) | 15.88 |
| IC-738 ICOM HF transciever, MFJ 949EY tuner, and RS-35M Astron power supply | 1,867.20 |
| Refreshments | 28.39 |
| Total May Disbursements | $2,005.59 |

BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Checking (General Fund) | $684.93 |
| Savings (Station Fund) | $768.48 |

Because of the large expenditure for the new ICOM radio and accessories, the Station Fund account became $-15.07. W6EFD is holding $500 of the Station Fund in his personal account, as he has for the past nine months (to facilitate station remodeling). I have transferred $648.93 from the General Fund into the savings account. All money in the savings account belongs to the General Fund. The only funds belonging to the Station Fund is in W6EFD's custody. The purchase of the radio and other equipment caused the checking account to be overdrawn, was done without my supervision, and I am not responsible for this mishap. There was a bank charge for $13 to cover this check.

Remember to feed the Kitty!

---

## Grizzly Peak 1994
### Edward J. Bear, KE6DVS

Now, I know that last year's Grizzly Peak EBARC event has already been reported on, but I think it's time to put those false rumors to rest and squash those conspiracy theories - especially the one about the grassy knoll.

The listing of six severe injuries is certainly an overstatement, since one of those counted was the electrocution of KA6QWIZ, who was setting up the base station before the event had really started.

Three of the five most serious injuries were caused by amateur radio operators (it can be tricky to talk on the radio while shifting gears, turning the steering wheel, and balancing a cup of hot coffee). However, it's clear to most of us that it's not really fair to blame us for the injury of the leading cyclist, since the automobile never actually struck him. Even though the sounding of the horn may have startled the victim, the jury was certainly unfair in awarding him the amount they did. It was certainly understandable that the crowd of cyclists would be upset at the injury, but to drag the ham from the car and beat him up, was

taking things too far. This final injury could have been avoided.

Halfway through the race, lunch was made ready by a hard-working group of volunteers. You should have seen the look of fear when the cyclists realized that the EBARC Pot Belly Committee had arrived first!

As the afternoon set in, Peter was still fighting his way to the site in Moraga. Initially delayed by BART trains running behind, he then had to deal with the bus breaking down. Peter was undaunted. He drove his wheelchair out of the bus, and using the auto-dial on the repeater, he called AAA. Then he proceeded to drive his wheelchair straight down the middle of the highway in high gear. Because of the distance, he set up the solar panels and a wind sail, and turned on the loud speakers. With the *William Tell Overture* blaring, he passed messages, directed traffic, dragged a bicycle out of the swamp, and gave water to a dehydrated canine. Most importantly, Peter brought our nifty T-shirts and some ice for the beer, which is why any of us bother to come to this lousy outing anyway.

Now that the truth has been told, we hope the sheriff will leave us alone.

---

## EBARC Roster Update
### Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ
### Membership Chair

- **NEW MEMBER!** Rich Parker, KD6JCT, has a Technician license, can be reached at P.O. Box 2523, Richmond, CA 94802 and by 'phone at 237-2777. He's not only an active ARES/RACES member, he's the Assistant Emergency Coordinator for West Contra Costa County. *[It's about time, Rich, and welcome!]*
- **NEW MEMBER!** Please welcome Roger Nelums, KE6SZG, to EBARC. He lives at 2767 Bowhill Lane, San Pablo, CA 94806-3105. He has a Technician license, and his 'phone is 222-3672. Besides talking on ham radio, he's interested in fishing and driving electric cars.
- **NEW MEMBER!** John C. Tim is joining EBARC after a 40 year absence from ham radio. He lives at 1019 Alberdan Circle, Pinole, CA 94564, and his 'phone is 724-0118. In addition to ham radio, he likes fishing and gardening.
- Bill Read, WD6AKC, just upgraded to General. Congratulations, Bill!
- Lloyd Albright, KE6IAJ, just upgraded from Tech+ to Advanced, in one leap!!

---

## General Meeting Minutes
### May 12, 1995
### Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, Acting Secretary

The regular meeting of the East Bay Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:28 p.m. by Ray Gillett, KF6FU. The first item of business was a *very* enlightening question and answer session by Ms. Kate Hora, Public Affairs officer at the Hayward FCC office. She spoke about vanity call signs, business use of amateur radio, resolving jamming and other interference problems, the workings of the FCC, 2 meter vs. TV channel 18, obscenity rules, PRB1 (antenna ordinances), and how to research "lost" license applications within the FCC.

Newsletter and Membership: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, said compliments were received for last month's *Blown Fuse* because of the article by Alan Craddock, WB6DXZ. She encourages other members

to write of their ham experiences, and will help with writing, if requested. Members should contact Sharon if their roster information changes, and she'll print it in *The Blown Fuse*.

Education: Henry Primbsch, KK6PH, says the General upgrade class is going well and will probably be finished just before the next EBARC VE test session (May 21st).

ARES/RACES: Sam Watson, N6VIF, gave us an update on the Grizzly Peak bike tour. He announced that Rich Parker, KD6JCT, will be his assistant. For the next training session, West County wanted to coordinate with East County. Instead, there will soon be a separate West County training session. At the last Emergency Coordinators' meeting in Concord, there was some discussion of the new community warning system sirens. The West Contra Costa County School District schools are not well prepared for an emergency, and Sam will try to work with the administration to come up with a better plan. Ivan Sturman, WB6PIV, talked about the interest by Kensington and El Cerrito fire officials to have fire patrols (similar to July 4th patrols) on high fire risk days. Similar patrols are now done in Alameda by NALCO ARES/RACES.

Club Station: Ralph Hall, W6EFD, reported that the club now has a new HF rig. It's an ICOM-738 160M - 10M 100 watt, solid-state unit. An Astron RS-35M power supply and an MFJ 939E antenna tuner were also purchased. These new purchases mean that the only piece of hard-to-tune equipment left at the club station is a tube type linear amplifier. One VHF radio needs a PL module, and we also need to put up our donated tower. Soon, there will be information on how each EBARC member is to get checked out on the equipment and gain access to the W6CUS station.


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Field Day: Ray Gillette, KF6FU, reported that we still need a CW station chair. Paul Christian, KN6OJ, will chair the packet and UHF/VHF station; John Percival, WI6O, will chair the SSB station; and Greg Small, KD6SXH, will chair the Novice station. Rich Parker, KD6JCT, will coordinate security and parking. We still need people to manage publicity and power. We also need masts, stakes for antenna guy wires, and tents.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 p.m. for raffle drawings.

---

## Field Day Planning

At this month's meeting, we'll do the final planning for EBARC's Field Day, which is June 23-25. Don't miss it!

---

## Future Bay Area Events

- Livermore Swap Meet, 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College, 7 a.m. to noon, all year. Talk-in 147.045 MHz. For more info, call Noel, KC6QZK, (510) 447-3857, evenings.
- Foothill Flea Market, 2nd Saturday of each month, March through September, at Foothill College, Los Altos
- EBARC-sponsored ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Sessions are regularly scheduled on the third Sunday of every odd-numbered month.
- Pacificon '95, Concord, Oct. 20-22, 1995. Contact Richard Schultze, AA6DL, at (510) 932-6125.

---

*[The crazy cartoon below was created by Ed Bear, KE6DVS - Ed.]*

## R-7 Antenna for Sale

Cushcraft R-7 Vertical HF antenna for sale, with coax and connectors. Asking $350 or best offer. Contact Dave Reynolds at (510) 420-6947. *[Ad placed by member Allen Smith III, AA6UX.]*

---

## HY-GAIN Antenna for Sale

HY-GAIN TH6DXX 6-element triband Yagi for sale, with new TH7DX conversion kit. Asking $575 or best offer. For info, contact Joe Lee, WB6DOB, at 724-0533.

---

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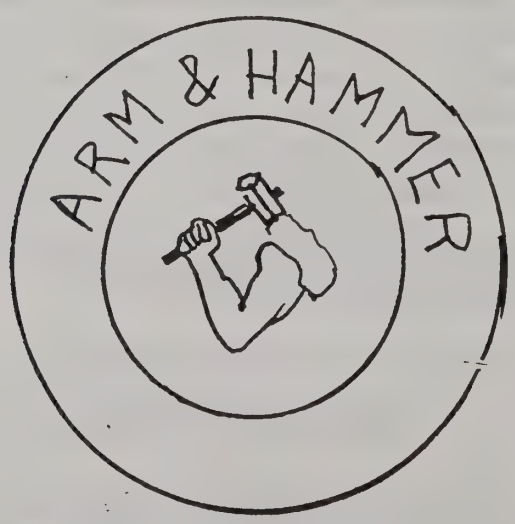
ARM & HAMMER

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Ron Smith KE6HKQ, 2nd VP - Hospitality Chair.....724-5099
Sharon Primbsch, 3rd VP - Membership / Blown Fuse Editor.....741-8227
John Percival WI6O, Secretary.....232-8111
Gordon Parsons NU6W, Treasurer / Finance Committee Chair...785-4290
Sam Watson N6VIF, ARES/RACES EC - West CoCoCo.....223-6408
Rich Parker, KD6JCT, Asst. ARES/RACES EC - West CoCoCo.237-2777
Ralph Hall W6EFD, Club Station Chair and Chief Elmer.....232-0727
Henry Primbsch KK6PH, Education Chair.....741-8227
Vern Orme AA6YE, Social Committee Chair.....233-4504
???, Publicity Chair.....
Joe Lee WB6DOB, Awards Chair.....724-0533
Bob Uhrhammer, W6CUS Trustee-designate.....525-1447
Ray Gillett KF6FU, Chair, Digital and RFI Committees.....799-5221
Ray Gillett KF6FU (and helpers), Field Day Chair.....799-5221
Harry Bier WA6TNI, Historian.....372-6755
John Billones WD6GGC, Member-at-Large.....237-1272
Doug Cain N6JNK, Member-at-Large.....237-3294
Leo Lewis WA6ZFV, Member-at-Large.....233-5034
Mel Hurley KC6FAW, Member-at-Large.....526-2868

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| EBARC SSB Net | Weds | 2100 | | 28.395 |
| No. Calif. VHF National Traffic System Net | Daily | 2030 | | 145.210 |
| Women's Amateur Roundtable | Weds | 2000 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |
| West Contra Costa County ARES/RACES Net | Thurs | 1845 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |
| Northern Alameda County ARES Net | Thurs | 1915 | | 147.48s |
| Contra Costa Communications Club Net | Thurs | 1930 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |
| Oakland ARES Emergency Communications Net | Thurs | 1930 | (PL 77) | 146.880 |
| "Over the Hill Gang" Breakfast/Commute Net | Mo-Fr | 0710 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |
| Northern Calif. Net VHF Session | Daily | 1930 | | 145.410 |
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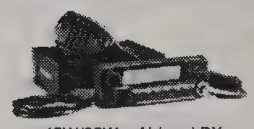

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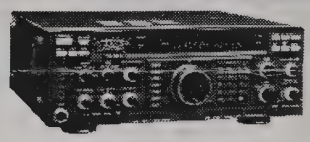

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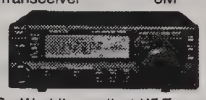

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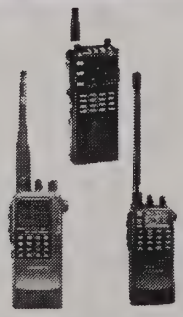

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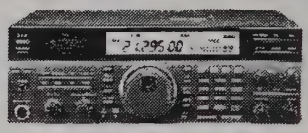

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THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

QLF

# THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME XLVIII NUMBER 7 JULY1995

## EBARC Meeting

July 14, 1995
7:00 p.m.

"Computer & Internet Resources for Ham Radio
Part I" by various EBARC folks

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets the second Friday of each month
at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave. (near Solano), Albany.
The Executive Board meets the first Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m.
at the home of Mel Hurley, KC6FAW, 137 Purdue Ave., Kensington.

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*The Blown Fuse* is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is free to its members. *The Blown Fuse* welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. *The Blown Fuse* reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of *The Blown Fuse*. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

Deadline for August issue: July 26

*[Articles can be submitted to the W6CUS packet bulletin board's AA6XZ mailbox, by dialing in to the editor's computer, by dictation over the 'phone, or by e-mail to primbsch@cmsa.berkeley.edu.]*

---

## Message from the President
### Fred Nieman, KC6VLL

Well it's over, the time of the year when I plan to camp out with all my radio friends. I have come to my senses and now sleep in my bed at home, and not on the rocks. This year's Field Day is over, and thanks to some great planning by Ray, KF6FU, and his committee, we had a great time eating, drinking, and operating (in that order). Those who attended also learned that a caged animal is not always as advertised.

What is Field Day? Some feel that it is nothing more than a contest, but I don't think so. To me, it is a chance to rebuild enthusiasm in ham radio. As you talk to different hams you hear how there are many firsts that happen at Field Day: "this is my first voice contact"; "this is my first RTTY experience"; "this is first time I have ever eaten chicken and rice soup at 2 a.m."; "this is the fifth year that the satellite station didn't make a contact"; "this is the first beer of the day". All are very important firsts.

While all of you that stayed home suffered from the heat, we enjoyed warm days and a coat at night. The food was good. The antennas when up without a problem. The sprinklers did not come on. We had a lot of interest from the public and even signed up a couple of new members. KN6OJ's talks on packet showed everyone who would listen that packet is the best thing since sliced bread.

If you missed the fun, mark your calendar for the last full weekend in June next year, and once again we will gather together for another fun weekend.

The next social event of the year will be the picnic on September 17th at the park in Point Richmond. This will be a joint picnic with the members of the CCCC group and should be great fun. Once again we will be eating, drinking, and operating.

Don't forget to mark the calendar for October 20 - 22, 1995 for Pacificon '95 at the Hilton in Concord. I have tickets if you want at $3 each. As always, it will be very interesting with talks, a swap meet, and a show with great prices.

"See ya" at the next meeting. Bring someone with you and let him or her learn about hammimg. 73s, Fred.

## Treasurer's Report
### June, 1995
### Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer

JUNE INCOME

| | |
|---|---|
| New Members: Robert Mayes, KE6DVT; Frank Hoenack, KO6WU | $40.00 |
| Field Day Patch Sales | 4.00 |
| Coffee Kitty | 24.10 |
| Raffle Ticket Sales | 33.00 |
| Balance of W6CUS Station Expense Account (returned) | 182.89 |
| Check from W6EFD | 13.00 |
| Total June Income | $296.99 |

JUNE DISBURSEMENTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Blown Fuse Postage | $34.56 |
| Blown Fuse Printing | 43.62 |
| City of Albany (room rental) | 40.00 |
| Pacific Bell (W6CUS) | 15.73 |
| Certificates (D. Brandon) | 7.63 |
| Refreshments (R. Smith) | 21.76 |
| Field Day food advance | 200.00 |
| Misc. W6CUS Station Expenses | 317.00 |
| Total June Disbursements | $680.41 |

BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Checking (General Fund) | $435.73 |
| Savings (Station Fund) | $951.37 |

The club station restoration is finished for now, and Ralph Hall has returned $182.89, which is the balance of the $500.00 he was holding for on-going expenses. This $182.89 has been put into the sataion fund (savings) where it belongs. The balance of the $951.37 is money from the general fund ($768.48). This is being stored here to collect interest.

---

## For Sale: Collector's Items

Buy your very own "W6CUS 45th Anniversary Field Day 1992" patch from Gordy, NU6W!


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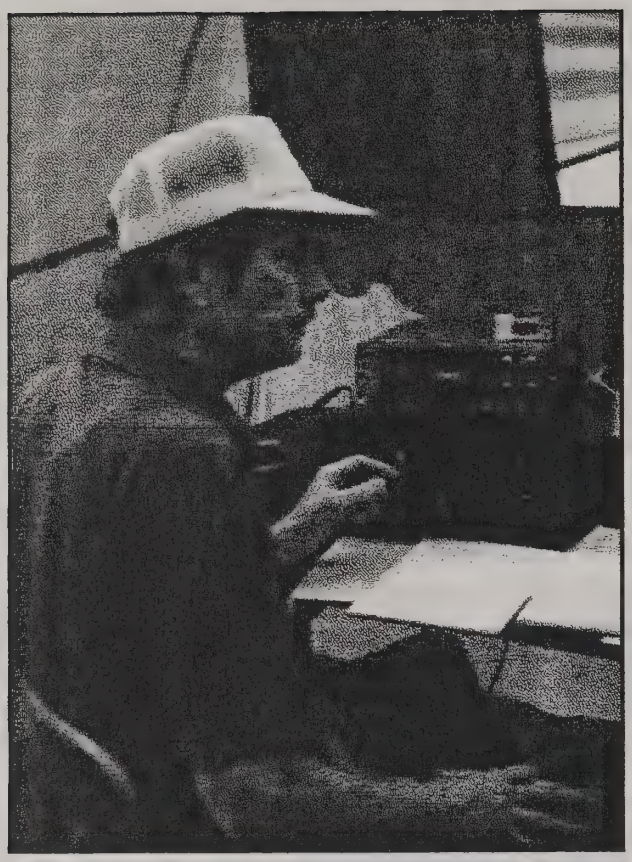
## General Meeting Minutes
### June 9, 1995
### John Percival, WI6O, Secretary

The regular meeting of the East Bay Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:22 p.m. by President Fred Nieman, KC6VLL. Fred welcomed members and guests to this meeting held at the Albany Senior Center. GUESTS: Dick Gleason WA6HYS, Frank Hoenack KO6WU, and Bob Mayes KE6DVT.

EDUCATION: Henry Primbsch, KK6PH, said the upgrade class has concluded with several people passing upgrade tests.

TREASURER: Treasurer Gordy Parsons, NU6W, reported the balances in our accounts.



EMERGENCY SERVICE: Assistant E.C. for West County, Rich Parker KD6JCT, reported that new training classes called "SIMS" are being developed. Rich said Sam Watson, N6VIF, will have information available soon about the classes. Rich also asked more people to check in on the Thursday night ARES/RACES net.

CLUB STATION: Ralph Hall, W6EFD, chairman of the Club Station Expansion Committee, reported that the remodeling work is complete. He reported the final cost total for the work and said the contingency fund could be returned to the Club's treasury. Ralph also presented the club station access policy for members. The plan involves an application form to be signed by those who wish to have a key for access to the station. The application outlines the procedures and conditions to be followed by users of the station. Ralph asked members to look at the proposed station access rules and hold a vote at the end of the meeting for their approval. Now that the new HF equipment for the station has been purchased, the Kenwood TS-820 HF rig is now available for sale. Some form of auction is being considered. The plan for selling the TS-820 will be announced in the *Blown Fuse*. The intent will be to get enough money to purchase a 3KW antenna tuner for use with our linear amplifier. President Fred said our Station Fund is now depleted and that we should consider another fund raising activity. The next project at the station will be to set up the club's new tower.

FIELD DAY: Following the refreshment break, Ray Gillett KF6FU, led a discussion of our plans for Field Day. The dates this year are June 24-25, and we will set up again this year at the Berkeley Marina North Waterfront Park, which has been renamed Cesar Chavez Park. Setup will begin on Friday the 23rd at about noon. Rich Parker, KD6JCT, described his plans to coordinate security activities at the site. He said we have access to a 300 space parking lot across the street from the park. Parking permit signs will be given to those who register at a security tent near the entrance to the parking lot. Field Day operating plans include, CW and SSB HF stations, a Novice/Tech+ station, VHF/UHF, Packet radio, Satellite and ATV operation. New member Rodger Nelums, KE6SZG, will serve as power captain to oversee setup and operation of the generator. Barbara Grazer KD6OKJ, and Donna Mae Gillett will organize food procurement and preparation as well as hospitality at the site. small discussion groups formed to make more detailed plans for Field Day.

Prior to adjournment of the meeting, President Fred called the meeting back to order and called for discussion of the club station access rules presented earlier in the

meeting by Ralph, W6EFD. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to so accept the proposed procedures.

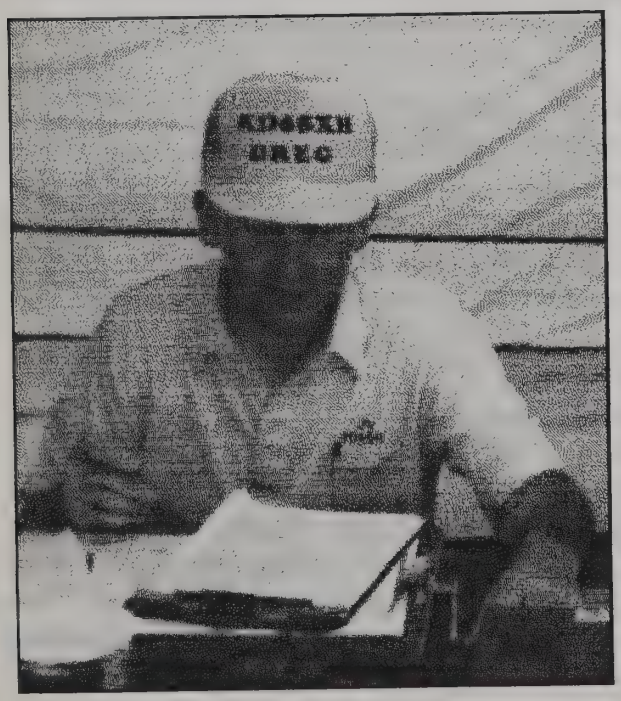
The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m. for raffle drawings.

---

## Computer and Internet Resources for Ham Radio, Part I

**David Brandon, KG6FR**

A number of club members are experienced in the various ways computers and the Internet can complement ham radio activity. The presentation at the July meeting will be the first of two programs in which EBARC members will demonstrate how to use your computer and modem to enhance the enjoyment and utility of amateur radio. E-mail, bulletin boards, software archives, and packet gateways are among the topics to be discussed. If you can contribute to this demonstration, please get in touch with me as soon as possible.



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## Silent Bid Sale @ W6CUS

At the July meeting, silent bids will be opened to determine who gets to buy some surplus W6CUS equipment. On the block is a Kenwood TS-820 HF rig, complete with microphone and a second (outboard) VFO. A minimum suggested bid is $350. If you can't make the July meeting, be sure to send your bid to Ralph, W6EFD, or have someone else bring it to the meeting.

---

## Special Event Station Planned for W6CUS in October

**David Brandon, KG6FR**

Preliminary planning has begun for a Special Event operation of W6CUS from the club station in Richmond. The goals of the event include: helping members get to know and operate the club station; furthering interactions with local officials; publicity for the Club; and fun for all! The event would be part of a celebration of the 90th Birthday of the City of Richmond. This birthday celebration is observed the entire year, with special activites concentrated in, but not limited to, August. Tentatively, the event would coincide with our October meeting, possibly starting that evening and continuing for certain hours on Saturday and Sunday. This should give lots of people a chance to visit. Please direct any comments or suggestions to me or to any other club officer. A decision about scheduling is needed at the July meeting to allow time for publicity in QST and other magazines.

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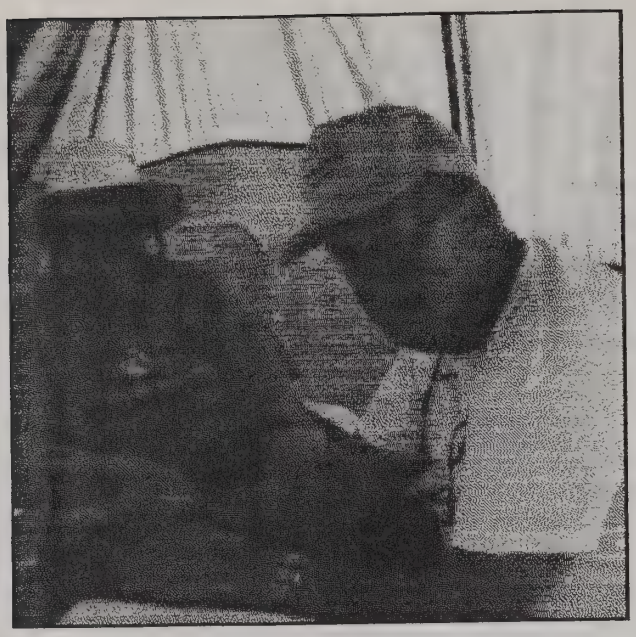


## EBARC's 1995 Field Day
### Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

It all started with setup on Friday afternoon, June 23rd. Ralph, W6EFD, had all the cabling and antennas from the club station ready to be delivered neatly to the site. Bob, KC6QCG, and his trusty truck arrived to haul W6CUS equipment to the Berkeley site. There were tons of people to help load and unload and tp put up tents and antennas. Roger, KE6SZG, was power captain, in charge of the generator and fuel. Lots of people loaned equipment and batteries to "the cause".

Rich, KD6JCT, led an outstanding security team. Even Peter, KD6QZH, returned from Texas in time. The parking, security, and shuttle arrangements were great the whole weekend. (It's okay to sleep now, Rich.)

Barbara, KD6OKJ; Audrey Nieman; Gayle (aka Burgie), KE6MSF; Donna Mae Gillett; and Fred, KC6VLL; led the food team. At 1:00 a.m. Sunday morning, KC6VLL was boiling potatoes in his 92 degree kitchen for Sunday morning's breakfast! Kit, KB6JZM, brought his traditional chicken soup late Saturday night. Stanton, KD6SWU, bought pink roses to brighten up the food table. The flowers went home with Sam, N6VIF, as a "thank you" to Carmen for providing Sunday's delicious breakfast quiche.

John, WI6O, did the honors as the SSB captain. Jamie, AB6WJ, and Doug, N6JNK, led the CW team. The novice tent was ably hosted by Greg, KD6SXH, (try sending *that* call sign in CW!). Greg says that seven operators made 80 contacts this year, more than twice as many as last year, for a total of 102 points. Paul, KN6OJ, and Robbie, N6NML, chaired the UHF/ VHF/ RTTY/ packet facilities. Fred, KC6VLL, tried for (but didn't quite get) a satellite contact. We also weren't able to grab an ATV contact. Thanks to Henry, KK6PH, we got points for solar power again this year. Joe Lee, WB6DOB, passed a message to ARRL, copied the Field Day message, and originated more than ten messages, earning yet more points for EBARC. We all appreciate those tireless operators, "dupers", and loggers for raking in all those points. Of course, the glue holding all of this together was Ray, KF6FU, our 1995 Field Day Chair.

KF6FU's grandson, Clark, manned the publicity tent, helped visitors sign in, ran ARRL videotapes, and helped set up every tent. While he wasn't busy, he was studying for his ham ticket on the computer. This year the Red Cross set up at many Field Day sites, and Leo made a contact for them from our EBARC site. We also had a distinguished visitor. Brad Wyatt, ARRL Director of the Pacific Division, visited us both Friday and Saturday! He says our setup was "magnificent". EBARC members who operated Field Day for the first time include: Sharon(!), AA6XZ; Gayle, KE6MSF; Roger, KE6SZG; Liz, KE6SKK; and Ron, KE6HKQ. Gordy, NU6W, was this your first

Field Day? The most interesting visitor was the pet "mongoose".

Here are some quick impressions from Ray, KF6FU. "As Field Day Chair for the first time, I think everything went very smoothly. I had lots of helpers, and I thank them very much. I ordered nice weather and no earthquakes for the weekend, and Mother Nature gracefully complied. Our objective was realized in that we had 47 different operators, both members and guests. We exposed lots of people to new ham modes that they had never operated before. Lots of operators got new, on-the-job training. We also gained a couple of new members!"

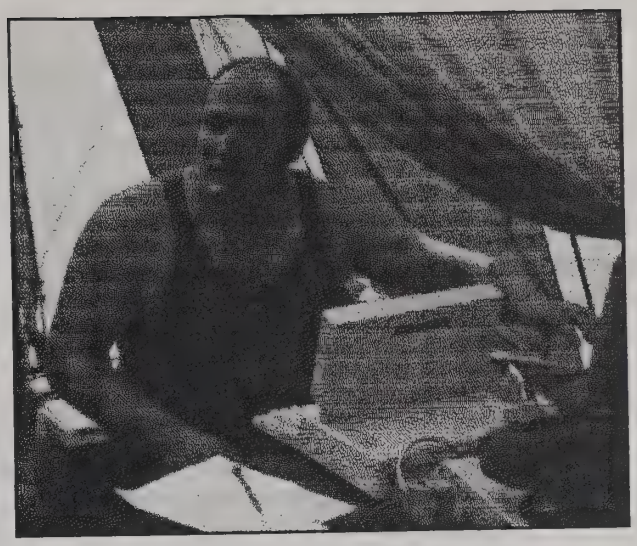
*[Many thanks to ace reporter Barbara Grazer, KD6OKJ, for collecting notes while your editor played. I apologize for not having enough space to name everyone. You know who you are!]*

---

## American Lung Association Bike Ride Series a Success

### Chris Wong, N6JGC

The 1995 ALA Bike Ride Series concluded on June 10th with the Great American Bike Ride in Pleasanton. The ALA sends special thanks to Henry, KK6PH, and Chris, N6JGC, for assisting. The ALA would also like to thank EBARC hams Gary, N6WVR; Sam N6VIF; Ray, KF6FU; and Kahm, KO6FG for their support earlier this year. Special thanks to John Stuart, KM6QX, of MDARC; Dan Bissell, N6WVF, of Vaca Valley Radio Club; and Ron Kane, WA6TGF, of LARK for their coordination of four of the rides. I would like to send along my own personal thanks for helping make each ride safe and enjoyable for the participants. The ALA looks forward to



working with us each year because of the experience and professionalism we bring to each ride. Kudos to all involved. The 1996 ALA Bike Ride Series will resume in late February 1996 with the Burr Bicycle Classic out of Pinole. If you have an interest in working public service events with EBARC, contact me or Sam, N6VIF, at any future club meeting.

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## Vanity Call Sign News Flash

### Brad Wyatt, K6WR, Director, Pacific Division, ARRL

Great news! ARRL HQ reported Tuesday, June 20, that a Report and Order in MD Docket No. 95-3 has been released. The fee for Amateur Vanity Call Signs, previously $70, has been reduced to $30 per license for the ten year license term. The new fee (along with other fees affecting other services) takes effect 90 days after publication in the Federal Register, which means not before late September 1995.

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## EBARC Roster Update
### Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ
### Membership Chair

- **NEW MEMBER!** Robert E. Mayes, KE6DVT, just joined and was very much in evidence at Field Day. He lives at 288 Whitmore St., #226, Oakland, CA 94611. He has a General license, and his phone is 655-0520. Bob is interested in 2 meters, packet, CW, DSP, and computers. His e-mail address is rmayes@netcom.com. He's also a member of ARRL and Oakland ARES.
- **NEW MEMBER!** Please welcome Frank Hoenack, KO6WU, to EBARC. He lives at 1105 Talbot Ave., Albany, 94706. He has an Advanced license, and his 'phone is 526-5587. He'd like to become an ARRL member and an ARES/RACES member!
- **UPGRADE:** Chris Wong, N6JGC, just upgraded to General. Congrats, Chris!

---

## Future Bay Area Events

- Livermore Swap Meet, 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College, 7 a.m. to noon, all year. Talk-in 147.045 MHz. For more info, call Noel, KC6QZK, (510) 447-3857, evenings.
- Foothill Flea Market, 2nd Saturday of each month, March through September, at Foothill College, Los Altos
- EBARC-sponsored ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Sessions are regularly scheduled on the third Sunday of every odd-numbered month.
- Pacificon '95, Concord, Oct. 20-22, 1995. Contact Richard Schultze, AA6DL, at (510) 932-6125.

Okay! I Know. *The Blown Fuse* looks a little ratty this month. A chip inside your editor's laser printer developed a crack and lost its smoke, resulting in a very funky smell. As of this writing, poor "Chip" was being replaced with a new chip which still had its smoke. In the meantime, the portable bubble jet printer was pressed into service, but it was so tiny, it couldn't reach down to the bottom of the page far enough to print the footer correctly. The day was saved with a third printer, my hand and a pen! - Ed.

---

For longer life for your NiCd batteries, operate with them until they go dead, then charge them again.

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc., founded in 1947, is a California non-profit corporation comprised of amateur radio operators in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The club is open to anyone interested in amateur radio. Annual dues are $20 for individual membership and $24 for a family membership. For information, call (510) 233-7509, contact any EBARC official, or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. The East Bay Amateur Radio Club maintains a club station, W6CUS, at the Richmond Red Cross. The packet station, W6CUS-1, is on 145.790 Mhz, and is linked to the EAST BAY LAN (EBAY) on 223.720 Mhz.

## 1995 EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Leo Lewis WA6ZFV, Member-at-Large ..... 233-5034
Mel Hurley KC6FAW, Member-at-Large ..... 526-2868

## AMATEUR RADIO NETS

| NET | DAYS | LOCAL TIME | | FREQ, MHZ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| EBARC Slow CW Net | Weds | 2000 | | 21.115 |
| EBARC SSB Net | Weds | 2100 | | 28.395 |
| No. Calif. VHF National Traffic System Net | Daily | 2030 | | 145.210 |
| Women's Amateur Roundtable | Weds | 2000 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |
| West Contra Costa County ARES/RACES Net | Thurs | 1845 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |
| Northern Alameda County ARES Net | Thurs | 1915 | | 147.48s |
| Contra Costa Communications Club Net | Thurs | 1930 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |
| Oakland ARES Emergency Communications Net | Thurs | 1930 | (PL 77) | 146.880 |
| "Over the Hill Gang" Breakfast/Commute Net | Mo-Fr | 0710 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |
| Northern Calif. Net VHF Session | Daily | 1930 | | 145.410 |
| "Going Home Group" | Mo-Fr | 1600 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |

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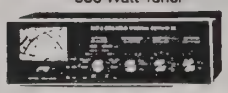

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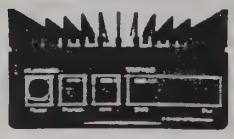

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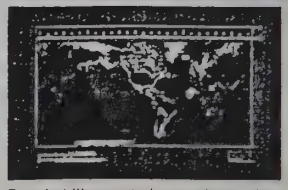

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THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

QLF

# THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME XLVIII NUMBER 8

AUGUST 1995

## EBARC Meeting

August 11, 1995
7:00 p.m.

"The First DXpedition to Syria"
Len Geraldi, K6ANP

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets the second Friday of each month at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave. (near Solano), Albany. The Executive Board meets the first Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mel Hurley, KC6FAW, 137 Purdue Ave., Kensington.

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*The Blown Fuse* is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is free to its members. *The Blown Fuse* welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. *The Blown Fuse* reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of *The Blown Fuse*. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

Deadline for Sep. issue: Aug. 23

*[Articles can be submitted to the W6CUS packet bulletin board's AA6XZ mailbox, by dialing in to the editor's computer, by dictation over the 'phone, or by e-mail to primbsch@cmsa.berkeley.edu.]*

---

## Message from the President
### Fred Nieman, KC6VLL

Sorry I missed the last meeting, but my boss felt that her birthday should be celebrated on her birthday and not on any other day. So off to dinner I went.

Now that the club is the proud owner of a 70 foot tower, it was felt that we should put it up "post haste". As it is now, it is a hazard, which is a concern to Ralph, W6EFD, our station manager and to the Red Cross. So, at the last board meeting we borrowed a couple hundred from the admin. fund to purchase material for the tower base and cement to fill the 3 x 3 x 6 foot hole that we need to dig for the base. Please see Ralph if you can dig.

Notice I said "borrowed money" which means it must be paid back, so we need a couple of sugar daddies or a fund raiser. I hope that if we put on a fund raiser that it's truly a club fund raiser, with *everyone* selling tickets, etc. The board is open to all ideas of where sugar daddies live or what type of fund raiser to have. That reminds me, the board meetings are open to all. Please feel free to come. We meet the first Friday of every month at the home of Mel Hurley, KC6FAW, 137 Purdue, Kensington at 7:30 p.m.

The same weekend as Pacificon is JOTA (Jamboree on the Air) for Boy Scouts. We have been asked to open our station for part of that time and to invite local Scouts

in to use W6CUS equipment, mostly 3rd party. This would require some of us to be there when the Scouts operate. If you can help, please contact Ralph W6EFD the next time he lands.

There is talk of having a special event station to help the City of Richmond with it's 90th birthday. *[See David Brandon's article - Ed.]* If so, we need a special QSL card or Certificate to sent to those we contact. If you can, please help design a card or certificate, and bring it to the next meeting.

---

## W6CUS's "Cranky" Tower
### Ralph Hall, W6EFD

The crank-up tower project for the W6CUS station is already underway. Phil Wong, WA6ODB, donated the metal needed so the concrete base will match with the tower's anchor points. Bill McNab, a guest at our last meeting, pointed me to a source of free reinforcing rod for the concrete. Roger Nellums, KE6SZG, donated miscellaneous necessary hardware. Thanks also to Jamie Wasson, AB6WJ, and to Liz Charlton, KO6XP, for volunteering to help "install" the necessary hole. (Did they buy the hole at the hardware store?) Additional "diggers" and "pourers" are welcome and encouraged. If you'd like to help with tower installation, please contact me as soon as possible.

---

## General Meeting Minutes
### June 9, 1995
### John Percival, WI6O, Secretary

The regular meeting of the East Bay Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by Ray Gillett, KF6FU, who filled in for President Fred Nieman, KC6VLL.

Ray welcomed members and guests to this meeting held at the Albany Senior Center. Ralph Hall, W6EFD, reminded members about the Silent Auction of the Club's Kenwood TS-820 HF transceiver as announced in the July *Blown Fuse*. The purpose of the auction is to raise money to purchase a new 3 KW tuner for the Club Station. He said that the sealed bids would be opened at the end of this meeting.

GUESTS: Bob Blaisdell; Mike Camp, KI6FQ; Robin Fraatz, KE6MRH; George Gliksman, KJ6QF; Bill McNab; and Dave Tyler, N6DRT, who was visiting from his new home in Port Angeles, Washington. Mike Camp and Robin Fraatz were welcomed as new members at this meeting.

CLUB STATION: Ralph Hall, W6EFD, chairman of the Club Station Committee, reported that all the Club Station equipment is working fine. A new plywood floor has been added to the attic on the east side of the building. This has greatly improved the storage area for our Field Day materials and other equipment. Ralph said plans have been made for installation of the new tower. The old wooden pole has been taken down and was found to be rotting at the base. A 3' x 3' x 6' poured concrete base with rebar will be put in for the new tower. Ralph said the Board has authorized $300 to begin the work. Ray said that a fund raiser for the Club Station has been proposed. Ideas considered at the June Board meeting were either a spaghetti feed or pancake breakfast. Ray asked the membership to offer other ideas for a fund raising plan or event.

SPECIAL EVENT STATION: David Brandon, KG6FR, presented a proposal for operating a Special Event Station at our Club Station on the weekend of Oct. 14-15. The event would begin with a Club Station "Open House" at our Club meeting on

Friday, Oct. 13, and would recognize the 90th anniversary of the City of Richmond. Dave showed a proposed publicity announcement he will submit to *QST* and other publications. There was discussion of creating a certificate to send to people who send a QSL after contact with our Special Event Station. Paul, KE6NMJ, suggested VHF operation be included. A motion was made, seconded and passed to proceed with the plan for the Special Event Station.

FIELD DAY RESULTS: Ray Gillett, KF6FU, announced the preliminary results of our Field Day operation. He has counted about 3,116 points thus far. The contact counts are; 250 CW, 17 packet, 308 HF SSB, and 77 VHF voice. Ray explained the various bonus point categories that will add to our score. David Brandon said several local cities issued proclamations for the week of June 19th as "Amateur Radio Week".

EMERGENCY SERVICE: Assistant E.C. for West County, Rich Parker, KD6JCT, reported that fire patrols will be set up soon to help during times of high fire danger this summer. He said volunteers will be needed and that people should contact Sam Watson, N6VIF, to get information if they wish to help.

PROGRAM: After the refreshment break, David, KG6FR, gave "part one" of a program demonstrating the use of computers in Amateur Radio. Using his home computer and packet modem, David demonstrated a connection to the N6EEG packet BBS. David then demonstrated a satellite tracking program and the "QRZ" CD-ROM callbook program. David concluded the program with a few words about Internet access. David plans to continue the program at a future meeting.

Prior to adjournment of the meeting, the silent auction bids were opened. The winner was Phil Wong, WA6ODB, with a $200 bid.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m. for raffle drawings.

---

## Treasurer's Report
### July, 1995
### Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer

JULY INCOME

| | |
|---|---|
| New Member: Calvin Steimetz, KD6WNM | $20.00 |
| New Family Membership: Robin Fraatz, KE6MRH; Mike Camp, KI7FQ; and Chris Camp, KB7ZGC | 24.00 |
| ARRL renewal (R. Smith, KE6HKQ) | 31.00 |
| Raffle Ticket Sales | 36.00 |
| Coffee Kitty | 22.42 |
| Phil Wong purchase of Kenwood 820 | 200.00 |
| Total July Income | $333.42 |

JULY DISBURSEMENTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Blown Fuse Printing | $53.48 |
| Blown Fuse Postage | 40.00 |
| City of Albany (room rental) | 60.00 |
| Refreshments (R. Smith) | 7.29 |
| ARRL Renewal (R. Smith) | 29.00 |
| Pacific Bell (W6CUS) | 16.23 |
| W6CUS Construction (R. Hall) | 300.00 |
| Total July Disbursements | $506.00 |

BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Checking (General Fund) | $327.15 |
| Savings (Station + General Funds *[$68.89 is the actual amount for the Station Fund]*) | $837.37 |

When renewing your ARRL membership, please do it through EBARC. We will get a $2.00 commission. Each little bit helps!

Remember to feed the Kitty!

## DXpedition to Syria
### David Brandon, KG6FR

The speaker for our August meeting is Len Geraldi, K6ANP. His topic is, "The First DXpedition to Syria". Please come, and invite prospective hams, friends, and family. Len will describe the operations of YK0A, including a beautiful slide show on the archaeological treasures of Syria.

---

## Special Event Station
### David Brandon, KG6FR

Instead of a regular EBARC meeting on Friday, October 13, 1995, we will have an open house at the club station. This will be the first day of our Richmond 90th birthday special event, and dignitaries will be invited Friday evening. Members are encouraged to work the event, especially those who have never operated a special event before. Even if you're a Novice or Tech and wish to work HF, a General or higher licensee control operator can be present for you. We'll have both HF and UHF/VHF stations operating. How about having a picnic or barbecue Saturday afternoon? The proposed operating hours are:

Local times:
Friday, October 13: 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Saturday, October 14: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sunday, October 15: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

UTC times:
October 14: 0100-0500; 1700-2400
October 15: 0000-0400; 1700-2400

Below is the text of the public announcement:
"Richmond, CA - The East Bay Amateur Radio Club will observe the 90th birthday of the City of Richmond by operating W6CUS from its newly remodeled club headquarters at the Richmond Red Cross building during the following hours: 14 October, 0100-0500 and 1700-2400; 15 October, 0000-0400; 1700-2400 UTC. General subbands on 80, 40, 20, and 15 m; Novice subbands on 10 m; and 2 m. For a certificate, send QSL and 9 x 12 SASE to EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530."


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---

## Special Event Certificate
### Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

So far, I have received only one (tongue-in-cheek) submission for a certificate for our proposed Richmond 90th anniversary special event. To help with design ideas, I still need Xeroxes of any certificates you might have earned from other special events. Please mail any and all ideas to me at 2122 Murphy Dr., San Pablo, CA 94806. I will pass them on to those working

on the certificate. To help your creative juices, see the ARRL and EBARC logos on the front page *of The Blown Fuse*, and the City of Richmond logo in this issue. Time's a-wastin'. Be sure anything you send gets to me *before* the last week of August, or it will not be considered!

## EBARC Roster Update

- **NEW MEMBER!** Robin Fraatz, KE6MRH, joined EBARC at our July meeting. She lives at 500 Vernon #309, Oakland, CA 94610. She has a Technician license, and her phone is 652-5102. Robin is interested in public service and is an ARRL member.
- **NEW MEMBER!** Also welcome Mike Camp, KI7FQ, to EBARC. He has an Extra license, and likes QRP operation. Mike's an ARRL member and interested in becoming an ARES/RACES member.
- **NEW MEMBER!** Chris Camp, KB7ZGC, is Mike Camp's 16 year old son.
- **NEW MEMBER!** Calvin Steimetz, KD6WNM, also joined EBARC recently. He has a Novice license, and is studying to pass his Technician exam. He lives at 1950 Eldorado Ave., Berkeley, CA 94707, and his phone is 527-0830. Welcome Calvin!
- **NEW MEMBER!** Larry Price, KE6SKJ joined EBARC on Field Day. He lives at 2318 Simas, Pinole, CA 94564, and his phone is 758-2937. Larry holds a Technician license. He isn't a member of ARRL or ARES/RACES, but is interested in both. His non-ham interests are photography and model railroading.
- **RE-LICENSED:** John C. Tim passed his Novice and Tech exams, and now has call sign KE6VWG. John could now use some help in acquiring used equipment. (John, if you're really a Tech+, please contact me so I can correct the roster.)
- **UPGRADE:** Liz Charlton, formerly KE6SKK, upgraded to Advanced. Her new call sign is KO6XP. Congrats!
- **NEW ADDRESS:** Craig Brammer, KC6OMY, now lives at 973 Elliott Dr., Vallejo, CA 94589. His new phone number is 707-643-5860.

## Future Bay Area Events

- Joint EBARC/4Cs Fall Picnic, Sunday, September 17th at Miller-Knox Regional Park in Richmond.
- Livermore Swap Meet, 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College, 7 a.m. to noon, all year. Talk-in 147.045 MHz. For more info, call Noel, KC6QZK, (510) 447-3857, evenings.
- Foothill Flea Market, 2nd Saturday of each month, March through September, at Foothill College, Los Altos
- SCRA Hamfest/Swapmeet, Sept. 16th, 1995 in Santa Rosa, CA. Contact Rick Reiner, K6ZWB, at (707) 575-4455.
- EBARC-sponsored ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Sessions are regularly scheduled on the third Sunday of every odd-numbered month.
- Pacificon '95, Concord, Oct. 20-22, 1995. Contact Richard Schultze, AA6DL, at (510) 932-6125. Fred Nieman, KC6VLL, also has tickets

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc., founded in 1947, is a California non-profit corporation comprised of amateur radio operators in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The club is open to anyone interested in amateur radio. Annual dues are $20 for individual membership and $24 for a family membership. For information, call (510) 233-7509, contact any EBARC official, or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. The East Bay Amateur Radio Club maintains a club station, W6CUS, at the Richmond Red Cross. The packet station, W6CUS-1, is on 145.790 Mhz, and is linked to the EAST BAY LAN (EBAY) on 223.720 Mhz.

## 1995 EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Leo Lewis WA6ZFV, Member-at-Large.....233-5034
Mel Hurley KC6FAW, Member-at-Large.....526-2868

## AMATEUR RADIO NETS

| NET | DAYS | LOCAL TIME | | FREQ, MHZ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| EBARC Slow CW Net | Weds | 2000 | | 21.115 |
| EBARC SSB Net | Weds | 2100 | | 28.395 |
| No. Calif. VHF National Traffic System Net | Daily | 2030 | | 145.210 |
| Women's Amateur Roundtable | Weds | 2000 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |
| West Contra Costa County ARES/RACES Net | Thurs | 1845 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |
| Northern Alameda County ARES Net | Thurs | 1915 | | 147.48s |
| Contra Costa Communications Club Net | Thurs | 1930 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |
| Oakland ARES Emergency Communications Net | Thurs | 1930 | (PL 77) | 146.880 |
| "Over the Hill Gang" Breakfast/Commute Net | Mo-Fr | 0710 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |
| Northern Calif. Net VHF Session | Daily | 1930 | | 145.410 |
| "Going Home Group" | Mo-Fr | 1600 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |

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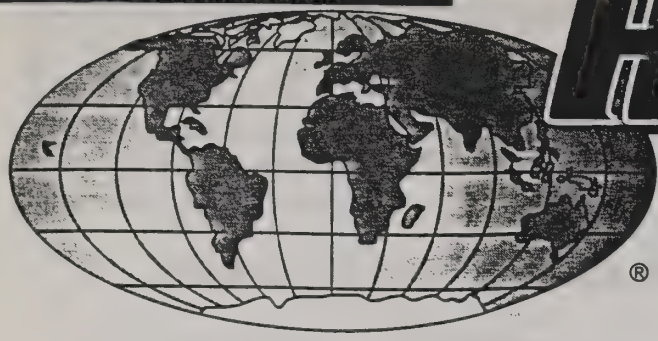

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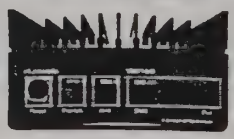

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THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

QLF

# THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME XLVIII NUMBER 9 SEPTEMBER 1995

## EBARC Meeting

September 8, 1995
7:00 p.m.

"Computer & Internet Resources for Ham Radio
Part 2" by Greg Small, KD6SXH, & others

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets the second Friday of each month at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave. (near Solano), Albany.

**There will be no Executive Board meeting Friday, September 1st.**

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
Post Office Box 1393
El Cerrito, CA 94530

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Robert C. Hughes, N6SPY
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*The Blown Fuse* is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is free to its members. *The Blown Fuse* welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. *The Blown Fuse* reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of *The Blown Fuse*. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

Deadline for Oct. issue: Sep. 28

*[Articles can be submitted to the W6CUS packet bulletin board's AA6XZ mailbox, by dialing in to the editor's computer, by dictation over the 'phone, or by e-mail to primbsch@cmsa.berkeley.edu.]*

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## The Next Solar Cycle Begins

### Paul Harden, NA5N

There is not much an observatory has to offer ham radio, but this is too pertinent to ignore.

As we all know, we are sitting at dead bottom of the solar cycle, a period of extreme solar "quiet" (minimum) conditions. From a communications standpoint, you plot solar activity (various indexes or sunspot counts) to determine when the next cycle begins, but this method identifies the next solar cycle months after the fact.

From an astronomy and observational standpoint, there are some conditions that identify the end of one cycle and the beginning of the next: During a solar *minimum* sunspots are rare, and when they do occur, they are located within seven degrees of the sun's equator. During a solar *maximum* sunspots become numerous and are located at much higher latitudes on the solar disk, above 30 degrees. Sunspot magnetic reverses from one cycle to the next.

The first sunspot above the equator since early 1994 was observed Saturday, August 12, 1995 at the Big Bear Solar Observatory, operated by Cal Tech. The sunspot was observed at 21 degrees north latitude and was of *opposite* magnetic polarity from all sunspots since 1984. Thus, the next solar cycle began August 12, 1995, a bit ahead of most forecasts. This suggests that improved HF propagation could be evident as early as next spring and summer, depending upon the rate of increase in solar activity.

You heard it here first; from the world's largest radio telescope at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory, Socorro, NM (humbly referred to as the "Center Of The Universe").

## Treasurer's Report
### August, 1995
### Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer

AUGUST INCOME

| | |
|---|---|
| Field Day Food/Meals Receipts | $190.77 |
| Raffle Ticket Sales | 41.00 |
| Coffee Kitty | 27.55 |
| New Member: Larry Price, KE6SKJ | 10.00 |
| Total August Income | $269.32 |

AUGUST DISBURSEMENTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Blown Fuse Printing | $43.63 |
| Blown Fuse Postage | 39.36 |
| City of Albany (room rental) | 40.00 |
| Refreshments (R. Smith) | 12.07 |
| Pacific Bell (W6CUS) | 15.78 |
| AT&T (long distance billing) | 5.55 |
| Al Streit (1994 Tax Return) | 100.00 |
| Total August Disbursements | $256.39 |

BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Checking (General Fund) | $340.08 |
| Savings (Station Fund*) | $837.37 |

*$68.89 of this amount is actually station fund money.

Our 1994 income tax return was prepared by Al Streit, a former member of EBARC. We don't have to pay taxes, as usual, because of our tax status as a non-profit corporation (or service organization). We cannot, however, provide for *tax-deductible* donations because of the classification of our corporation status.

Remember to feed the Kitty!

---

## New ARES/RACES EC

Sam Watson, N6VIF, has passed the baton of the ARES/RACES Emergency Coordinator for West Contra Costa County to Rich Parker, KD6JCT. We all thank Sam for his efforts, and wish Rich all the best. Rich will be ably assisted (if necessary for a "normal working hours" emergency) by Doug Cain, N6JNK. Rich is trying to get a phone tree list going. Also, if you are an ARES/RACES member who has been assigned to a particular site in case of an emergency, tell Rich which site (if you haven't done so already). Rich says there will probably be a training session some time this Fall. Rich's and Doug's phone numbers are listed on the inside back page of the *Blown Fuse*.

---

## W6CUS Needs a Trustee

If you are an EBARC member and have an Extra class license, please consider becoming the trustee for the club's W6CUS call sign. Our current trustee has not lived in the area for many months, and our trustee-designate, Bob Uhrhammer, would like to have another person take over this responsibility. If you are interested, please contact Fred Nieman, KC6VLL.

---

## General Meeting Minutes
### August 11, 1995
### John Percival, WI6O, Secretary

The regular meeting of the East Bay Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Fred Nieman, KC6VLL. Fred welcomed members and guests to this meeting held at the Albany Senior Center.

GUESTS: Bob Blohm; Len Geraldi, K6ANP; and Ron Jacobs, WA6CCF.

UPGRADE: Lloyd Albright, KE6IAS, has upgraded to Extra Class.

CLUB STATION: Ralph Hall, W6EFD, chairman of the Club Station Committee, reported that all the Club Station equipment is working well. Ralph said the new tower installation project has begun. The tower base structure that will be set in concrete has been built. Ralph said the tower manufacturer's installation recommendations indicate the hole for the base will need to be slightly larger than originally thought. Also, it is recommended that the concrete be given 21 days cure time before the tower is mounted on the base. Ralph said he had been unable to saw through the existing concrete slab where the tower will be installed. He said Dr. Mel Hurley, KC6FAW, has arranged for help to break up the concrete, probably on the weekend of August 12.

EDUCATION: Henry Primbsch, KK6PH, said Ivan Sturman, WB6PIV, will teach a no-code Technician license class at Kensington Middle School.

CLUB LICENSE TRUSTEE: Bob Uhrhammer, WB6VEX, reports that he has not had success in two tries to contact the FCC about the application to change the trustee name on our station license from Sam Pontier, N6TGU, to his name. Bob said he has been too busy to follow up and suggests someone else should take over the matter.

SPECIAL EVENT STATION: David Brandon, KG6FR, reported that he has sent out publicity to four Ham magazines announcing the Special Events Station operation at our Club Station.

Picnic: Fred said our picnic is set for Sunday, Sept. 17, at Miller-Knox Park. Food will be served at 1:00 p.m. The picnic will be a joint effort with the 4Cs club and we will pay 1/3 the total cost since our club is about half the size of the 4Cs.

MISCELLANEOUS: Fred said the annual Boy Scout "Jamboree On The Air" will be on the weekend of Pacificon, Oct. 20-22. He asked for volunteers to open our Club Station and allow local scouts to participate by using W6CUS on that weekend. Fred reminded members that we need ideas and volunteer help for a fund raising event. We need to do this soon to make up the costs of our recent Club Station projects. Ron Smith, KE6HKQ, announced that he and Greg Small, KD6SXH, are going to revive the Club's HF nets on Wednesday nights; CW at 8:30 p.m. (21.115 MHz), and then SSB at 9:00 p.m. or later on 28.395 MHz.

PROGRAM: After the refreshment break, David, KG6FR, introduced our guest speaker Len Geraldi, K6ANP, a member of the NC DX Club and board member of the NCDX Foundation. Len spoke about his participation in "The First DXpedition to Syria." With great help from Syrian hams, Len and eight others obtained licenses to operate as YK0A in Damascus, Syria, November 22-29, 1994. Len showed slides of their station location and equipment set up to work 10 meters through 160 meters. Using CW, SSB, and RTTY, the group made 7,607 contacts with 420 countries. Len also had interesting slides of historic areas they visited around Damascus. After the program, David Brandon presented Len with a Certificate of Appreciation.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m. for raffle drawings.

---

## EBARC Program News
### David Brandon, KG6FR

At the September meeting, Greg Small and other EBARC members will present "Computer and Internet Resources for Ham Radio, Part 2." We've solved the technical

difficulties experienced in July, and have modems working at the meeting site. The main problem was due to the special phone system. Thanks to Greg Small, we have located some jacks wired conventionally and have tested the system. At September's meeting, we will demonstrate various ways of connecting to the Internet and what you can do when connected. We will also have an LCD panel tuned up and ready to project the computer screen. If you are experienced on the Internet, please contribute to the program. Please let me know in advance, if possible. I would also urge members to speak up at the meeting. Tell us about a recent ham activity you've done or an anecdote from the past.

The October meeting will be an open house at the W6CUS club station, featuring a special event operation. A short program will be presented on club history and Richmond history. Involvement of city officials and the press are expected. Watch this space!

I will not be able to attend the November meeting, because we'll be celebrating Jonathan's Bar Mitzvah at 7:30 that evening. (Club members welcome. Just let me know you're coming.) Therefore, I wish to ask another club member to arrange and host the program for November. If possible, let me or Fred know ASAP, hopefully before the September meeting.

---

## EBARC Revives Nets

Thanks to Ron Smith, KE6HKQ; Greg Small, KD6SXH; and Liz Charlton, KO6XP; EBARC's Slow Code and 10-meter SSB nets are getting busy again. You are invited to join in the fun. The Slow CW net meets Wednesday evenings at 8:30 p.m. local time on 21.115 MHz. Immediately thereafter, at 9:00 p.m., the SSB 10M net meets on 28.395 MHz. That way, if you couldn't get your message across using CW, you can always repeat it by voice! Hams who have never talked via CW or who can only copy code slowly are especially encouraged to use the CW net for practicing. It's a friendly, patient, net. In the future, if you forget the sked, look at the inside back page of each *Blown Fuse*.

---

## EBARC/4Cs Picnic

This year's EBARC Picnic is a joint affair with the Contra Costa Communications Club (4Cs). The date is Sunday, Sept. 17th. Lunch will be served about 1 p.m., but come early. The "doin's" are at George Miller Jr. - John T. Knox Regional Shoreline Park at Keller's Beach in Point Richmond. To get there, take I-80, get off at Cutting Blvd. and go west on Cutting to South Garrard Blvd. Then turn left and go through the tunnel, staying to the left. You will see the park on your right, between you and the Bay. A sign will be posted at the parking lot entrance. Friends, family, and kids are welcome. However, we need to know how many people we'll be feeding. Please tell either Fred, KC6VLL, or Vern, AA6YE, how many people will be in your group. Soft drinks and food are furnished by the club. If you want non-soft drinks, bring your own. There will be a T-hunt, kite flying, a tug of war, horseshoes, and other fun things. The park has a playground for young children. The model train display (across the street from the park) will also be open that day.

---

Keep your batteries charged!

---

## Listen Up!
### Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

The October Blown Fuse will be assembled in one night, under duress, by a tired and (probably) crabby editor (me). If you have something for the October issue, be sure it gets to me via e-mail no later than 3 p.m., or by telephone no later than 8 p.m. Sept. 28th. If you mail a submission to me, be sure to make a copy for yourself, then call me on deadline night to see if I received it. (If not, you can dictate it to me over the telephone.) I will neither remind submitters, nor will I call anyone that evening. If you want an item to appear in this issue, you must contact me on September 28th! (Thanks, I'll get off my soapbox now.)

---

The picture on this page shows the April work party that disassembled and moved the tower and beam that were donated to the W6CUS club station. Those who were on hand to help included Fred Nieman, KC6VLL; Bob Szentimrey, KC6QCG; Henry Primbsch, KK6PH; Stanton Gleason, KD6SWU; Leo Lewis, WA6ZFV; Sam Watson, N6VIF; and Ed Bear, KE6DVS.

---

## EBARC Roster Update

- **CORRECTION:** John C. Tim, KE6VWG, recently earned his Tech+ (not Tech) license.
- **UPGRADE:** Lloyd Albright, KE6IAJ, just upgraded to Extra. Congratulations!

---

## Future Bay Area Events

- Joint EBARC/4Cs Fall Picnic, Sunday, September 17th at Miller-Knox Regional Park in Richmond.
- Livermore Swap Meet, 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College, 7 a.m. to noon, all year. Talk-in 147.045 MHz. For more info, call Noel, KC6QZK, (510) 447-3857, evenings.
- Foothill Flea Market, 2nd Saturday of each month, March through September, at Foothill College, Los Altos
- SCRA Hamfest/Swapmeet, Sept. 16th, 1995 in Santa Rosa, CA. Contact Rick Reiner, K6ZWB, at (707) 575-4455.
- EBARC-sponsored ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Sessions are regularly scheduled on the third Sunday of every odd-numbered month. The next test is at 9:00 a.m. on Sept. 17th.
- Pacificon '95, Concord, Oct. 20-22, 1995. Contact Richard Schultze, AA6DL, at (510) 932-6125. Fred Nieman, KC6VLL, also has tickets

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Ray Gillett KF6FU (and helpers), Field Day Chair.....799-5221
Harry Bier WA6TNI, Historian.....372-6755
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Leo Lewis WA6ZFV, Member-at-Large.....233-5034
Mel Hurley KC6FAW, Member-at-Large.....526-2868

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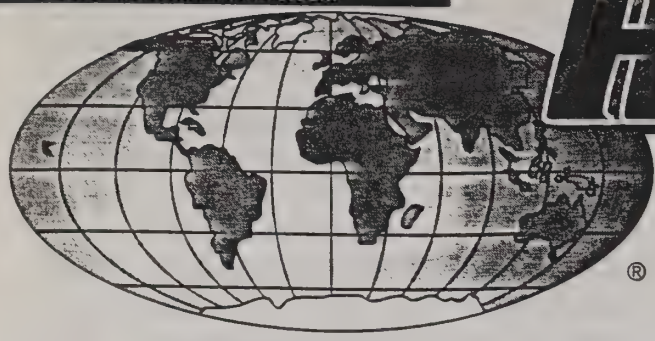

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tubular streamlined look
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Handles 18 sq. ft. at 50 mph
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THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

QLF

# THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME XLVIII NUMBER 10 OCTOBER 1995

Meet at W6CUS

**EBARC Meeting**

October 13, 1995
evening

"Richmond's 90th Birthday Special Event"
EBARC Members + Dignitaries

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club's October 1995 meeting will be at the W6CUS club station at the Richmond Red Cross, (MacDonald Ave.). The Executive Board meets the first Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mel Hurley, KC6FAW, 137 Purdue Ave., Kensington.

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
Post Office Box 1393
El Cerrito, CA 94530

OAKLAND, CA 946 PM 29 SEP 1995

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Robert C. Hughes, N6SPY
238 San Carlos Ave.
El Cerrito, CA 94530-4151

POSTMASTER:
Address Correction Requested

*The Blown Fuse* is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is free to its members. *The Blown Fuse* welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. *The Blown Fuse* reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of *The Blown Fuse*. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

Deadline for Nov. issue: Oct. 25

*[Articles can be submitted to the W6CUS packet bulletin board's AA6XZ mailbox, by dialing in to the editor's computer, by dictation over the 'phone, or by e-mail to primbsch@cmsa.berkeley.edu.]*

---

## EBARC Open House and Special Event Station

**David Brandon, KG6FR**

At the October 13th meeting, we'll have an Open House celebration at W6CUS and the first day of our 3-day Special Event Station. Come to see the club station as well as to operate. We'll have a short program on Richmond City history and a bit on club history as well. We've invited City officials and the press to join us Friday in the celebration of Richmond's 90th birthday and the opening of the rejuvenated and enlarged club station. The club station is in the American Red Cross annex building, at the rear of 3200 Macdonald Avenue in Richmond. The Friday meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. Because dignitaries will be invited, it's best to arrive early.

Operators and assistants are needed during all special event days (see hours, below). This is a great opportunity to get to know the club station, to try out equipment, to practice operating skills, and, *especially* to have fun with your fellow hams. (How about a picnic or barbecue Saturday afternoon?!) ***Please*** plan to spend at least a couple of hours at the Club station on the weekend of the October 13th - 15th. Everyone who wishes to operate, will get a chance to do so. Lots of comraderie is expected. Here are the hours of our operation (local times):

Friday, October 13: 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Saturday, October 14: 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Sunday, October 15: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

(UTC times: October 14: 0100-0500; 1700-2400 October 15: 0000-0400; 1700-2400)

---

## Future Bay Area Events

- Livermore Swap Meet, 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College, 7 a.m. to noon, all year. Talk-in 147.045 MHz. For more info, call Noel, KC6QZK, (510) 447-3857, evenings.
- Foothill Flea Market, 2nd Saturday of each month, March through September, at Foothill College, Los Altos
- EBARC-sponsored ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Sessions are regularly scheduled on the third Sunday of every odd-numbered month. The next test is at 9:00 a.m. on Nov. 19th.
- Pacificon '95, Concord, Oct. 20-22, 1995. Contact Richard Schultze, AA6DL, at (510) 932-6125. Fred Nieman, KC6VLL, also has tickets.

---

Keep your batteries charged!

## Treasurer's Report
### September, 1995
### Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer

SEPTEMBER INCOME

| | |
|---|---|
| New Member: Robert Blohm | $20.00 |
| Donation (W6JRZ) | 5.00 |
| Coffee Kitty | 16.66 |
| Raffle Ticket Sales | 53.00 |
| Total September Income | $94.66 |

SEPTEMBER DISBURSEMENTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Room Rental (City of Albany) | $40.00 |
| Picnic Supplies (F. Nieman) | 100.00 |
| State of California (filing fee) | 5.00 |
| Pacific Bell (W6CUS) | 16.00 |
| AT&T (long distance billing) | 5.55 |
| Refreshments (R. Smith) | 12.50 |
| Blown Fuse Postage | 40.00 |
| Blown Fuse Printing | 43.62 |
| Total Sept.Disbursements | $263.12 |

BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Checking (General Fund) | $571.62 |
| Savings (Station Fund*) | $437.37 |

*$68.89 of this amount is actually station fund money. The balance belongs to the general fund ($368.48).

We have just two regular meetings left this year. December is the annual Holiday Party. In looking at our bank accounts, our financial situation will be very tight at the end of the year unless we can pay our membership dues early. Our combined insurance premiums last year was $455. Hopefully, it will be the same again this year (and not larger). Regrettably, most people pay their dues after December, so that the General Fund us usually very short at the very time we have to pay our insurance bills. If you would like to pay your 1996 dues now, it would make your club Treasurer very happy to make out your new membership card!


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*Your Contra Costa Ham Radio Headquarters*

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A.O.R. Ace Scanning Receivers
Bencher Paddles
B.& W. Antennas, Coax Switches & Accessories
Bearcat/Uniden Scanners
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Callbooks, Maps, Guides & Supplements
Carol/Columbia Coax Cable
Cushcraft VHF & UHF Antennas
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## EBARC Roster Update

- **NEW MEMBER:** Please welcome Robert Blohm to EBARC. He has no call sign (yet?), and lives at 1237 Gerald Ave., San Pablo, CA 94806

---

For your convenience, page 4 of this issue of The Blown Fuse is a membership renewal form. Please pay your dues early!

---

Membership Renewal:

# East Bay Amateur Radio Club Membership Form

**Membership type:** ☐ Individual ($20/year) ☐ Family ($24/year)

Name _____ Call Sign _____

Street _____ Class: N T T+ G A E

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Internet/Packet address _____

Main ham interests: _____

Other hobbies or skills: _____

Newsletter option: ☐ Mail paper copy ☐ Send electronically

ARRL member? Y N If not, are you interested? Y N

ARES/RACES member? Y N If not, are you interested? Y N

**Make check payable to "EBARC", and mail to:** East Bay Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 1393
El Cerrito, CA 94530

Amount Enclosed: $_____ Date paid: _____ Check number _____

**For Family membership, please fill out this section also:**

Spouse's name _____ Call Sign _____

Street _____ Class: N T T+ G A E

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Internet/Packet address _____

Main ham interests: _____

Other hobbies or skills: _____

Newsletter option: ☐ Mail paper copy ☐ Send electronically ☐ Share with spouse

ARRL member? Y N If not, are you interested? Y N

ARES/RACES member? Y N If not, are you interested? Y N

Children's name(s), call(s), class(es): _____

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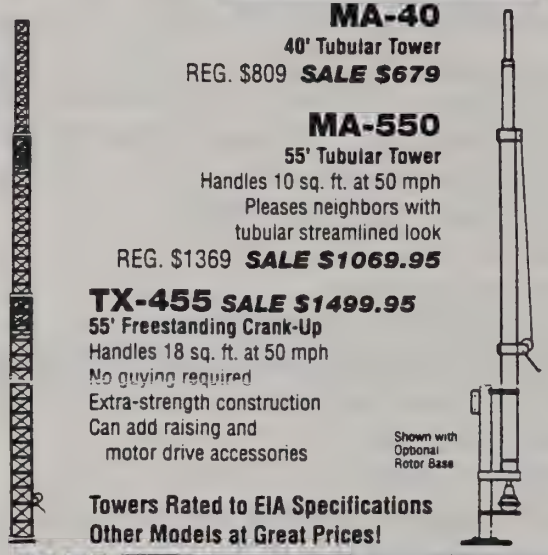

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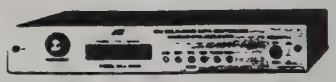

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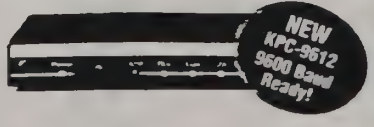

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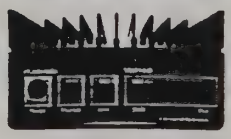

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THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

QLF

# THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME XLVIII NUMBER 11 NOVEMBER 1995

## EBARC Meeting

November 10, 1995
7:00 p.m.

EBARC Swap Meet and
Election of 1996 Officers

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets the second Friday of each month at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave. (near Solano), Albany. The Executive Board meets the first Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mel Hurley, KC6FAW, 137 Purdue Ave., Kensington.

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
Post Office Box 1393
El Cerrito, CA 94530

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Robert C. Hughes, N6SPY
238 San Carlos Ave.
El Cerrito, CA 94530-4151

POSTMASTER:
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*The Blown Fuse* is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is free to its members. *The Blown Fuse* welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. *The Blown Fuse* reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of *The Blown Fuse*. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

Deadline for Dec. issue: Nov. 20

*[Articles can be submitted to the W6CUS packet bulletin board's AA6XZ mailbox, by dialing in to the editor's computer, by dictation over the 'phone, or by e-mail to primbsch@cmsa.berkeley.edu.]*

---

## Message from the President

### Fred Nieman, KC6VLL

Thanks to a lot of hard work by David Brandon, KG6FR, the last meeting at the station was very good. It was interesting to hear Donna Powers explain the new warning system that is about to be installed, and then admit that she was not sure what hams were all about or if they were included in the overall plan. Then came the speaker on the early history of Richmond. Some of the senior members of the club corrected her about some of the facts. (They knew because they were there.)

During the weekend several members had a chance to operate and make contacts for the special event station. While some of us were trying to make contacts of HF, Kham, AC6PU, (notice that he is no longer fine guy) was making one contact after another on 2 meter simplex. I didn't think that many people used simplex on a regular basis.

One of the best parts was to see the station in use. Ralph, W6EFD, and crew worked real hard, and we put up a lot of money to make this station, and now we need to use it. I would like to see the station put to club use at least one weekend a month.

While we had all these operators inside, we had a group of operating engineers outside trying to crank up the new tower to see if we could. It was determined that it took 41 turns of the crank to move it up one foot so it took 2870 turns up and 2870 turns down. Friends, that's a lot of turns. But it worked, and it did go all the way up and all the way down. The engineers feel that all the cables should be replaced before we set the beam on it and send it up. The cost of the new cables will be about $250.00. By the way, the reason it could be cranked is that Ralph, W6EFD, and his magic crew held a tower erection party the Thursday before.

I have written and talked about having a fund raiser for the club, and I have come up with a starter. The entertainment book people are willing to let us sell the book this year. If you don't know what the entertainment book is, it allows discounts on restaurants, shows etc. in Contra Costa County. If you just use the pizza deals, you would save about four times the cost of the book. By the next meeting I should have the books to sell. The club gets a percentage off each one.

Now, I must apologize to all when I started with fund raisers for the new station. I said that we would put a plaque in the station naming any who gave $100 or more in funds or goods, and I have yet to do it. I would like at this time ask that those who gave, drop me a note and remind me. If you want to make (or made) the donation in someone special's name, please make a note of the wording. As soon as I get a

complete list, the plaque will be placed on the north wall of the new area. Again, I apologize for my lack of follow-through.

---

## General Meeting Minutes
### September 8, 1995
### John Percival, WI6O, Secretary

The regular meeting of the East Bay Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Fred Nieman, KC6VLL. Fred welcomed members and guests to this meeting held at the Albany Senior Center. There was no Board Meeting this month.

CLUB STATION: Ralph Hall, W6EFD, has resigned as Chairman of the Club Station Committee. The search will begin for a new leader of the committee. David Brandon KG6FR, asked the Club to express thanks to Ralph for his excellent leadership of the Club Station remodeling project. Leo Lewis, WA6ZFV, said a recent demonstration of our new Club Station was very well received by Red Cross people. He said they are also interested in having a demo of our Packet Radio capability at the Red Cross station.

Club License Trustee: Fred said Bob Uhrhammer, WB6VEX, has asked to have someone else step in and take his place as the new applicant for Trustee of our Club station license. Fred says we still need to find someone with an Extra Class license to serve as trustee.

SPECIAL EVENT STATION: David Brandon, KG6FR, reported on planning for the Special Events Station we will operate at our Club Station in October. He passed around a sign-up sheet with dates and times for persons who want to operate during the event. The times he has set for operation are: Friday Oct. 13 from 6 to 10 p.m., Saturday Oct. 14 from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sunday Oct. 15 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Emergency Service: Rich Parker, KD6JCT, made announcements about upcoming activities, including the annual ARRL Simulated Emergency Test, Tri-City Safety Day, and a RACES Training Session. Rachel, KB6LHR, said "CPR Saturday" will be on the same day as Tri-City Safety Day, and said they are looking for radio operators to help out.

Picnic: Social Committee Chairman Vern Orme, AA6YE, distributed an information flyer announcing our joint picnic with the Contra Costa Communications Club set for Sunday, Sept. 17, at Miller-Knox Park. Food and soft drinks will be provided. Vern thanked the 4-C's members who have helped in planning the picnic.

PROGRAM: After the refreshment break, David KG6FR, introduced club member Greg Small, KD6SXH, who gave a talk on Internet resources for Ham Radio. Greg had a demonstration setup including a 386 portable PC, 14.4K Baud modem, and overhead projecting display unit. Using the new "Windows 95" operating system, Greg demonstrated on-line access to the Internet and World Wide Web via a computer system at UC Berkeley. He made the point that networking is not new, but activity has increased tremendously in the last year since Internet opened up access with the World Wide Web. Greg's interesting talk was followed by questions and discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m. for raffle drawings.

---

**RENEW FOR 1996!**

---

## Treasurer's Report
### October, 1995
### Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer

OCTOBER INCOME

Individual Renewals: KB6LHR, WA6ZFV, KE6HKQ, KE6VWG.....$80.00
Family Renewals: WB6DOB/KJ6OP, KG6FR Family, AA6XZ/KK6PH...72.00
Coffee Kitty .....6.10
Total October Income.....$158.10

OCTOBER DISBURSEMENTS

Blown Fuse Postage.....$36.48
Blown Fuse Printing.....28.58
Pacific Bell (W6CUS).....15.70
AT&T (long distance billing).....5.55
Postage Stamps (NU6W).....3.20
Total October Disbursements....$89.51

BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS

Checking (General Fund) .....$640.21
Savings (Station Fund*).....$437.37

*$68.89 of this amount is actually station fund money.

The 1996 membership renewal is now underway. Please pay as soon as possible, so that we can determine next year's budget early. The dues are $20 for regular (individual) membership and $24 for family membership. Several people have paid their dues already, and their support is much appreciated.

Remember to feed the Kitty!

---

Elections are next meeting.

Please volunteer to be an EBARC officer!

---


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| Egg Insulators | Gutter Mounts | Headphones |
| Dog Bone Insulators | Code Practice Oscillators | Flexible Rubber Antennas |
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## ARES/RACES News
### Rich Parker, KD6JCT

On Saturday, Nov. 4th from 8 a.m. to noon, there will be a Basic ARES/RACES training session. It will be held in a County building, at 525 Henrietta Ave., Martinez. The nearest cross street is Alhambra.

When checking in to the Thursday night 6:45 p.m. ARES/RACES net, please first try to check in on 147.510 simplex. If you can't make contact here, proceed to the 145.11 repeater. In case of an emergency, if the repeater is down, we'll all have a simplex frequency where we can meet.

I'm considering holding a monthly meeting for our West County group. Please let me know if you like this idea, and where and when you'd like the meeting.

## General Meeting Minutes
### October 13, 1995
### Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ
### (Acting Secretary)

The regular meeting of the East Bay Amateur Radio Club was held at the club station in the American Red Cross building, Richmond. The meeting was called to order at 7:45 p.m. by President Fred Nieman, KC6VLL.

RENEWALS: Fred, KC6VLL, reminded members to renew their memberships for 1996.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Officers for 1996 will be elected at the November meeting. Fred encourages anyone interested in holding a office to contact him or Henry Primbsch, KK6PH. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the November meeting.

CLUB STATION: Fred. KC6VLL, encouraged members to operate the Special Event Station (which begins tonight). He especially encouraged people who might wish to work HF, but aren't licensed yet for CW.

EDUCATION: Henry Primbsch, KK6PH, said the no-code Technician class he and Ivan Sturman, WB6PIV, are teaching has 6-8 students and is going well.

The business meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m., and David Brandon, KG6FR, introduced our two "Richmond's 90th Birthday" guest speakers: Donna Powers from the Richmond City Council and Sandi Genser-Maack of the Richmond History Museum.

There was no raffle drawing at this meeting.

---

## Report on Richmond's 90th Birthday at W6CUS
### David Brandon, KG6FR

I consider our Special Event Station operation last month to have been a success for several reasons. First, we had about 35 club members spend some time at the station, especially during the Friday evening open house. Second, we publicized the club name and purpose by contacting elected and appointed officials and distributing a press release to local media (one reporter followed up by phone). Third, about 10 club members operated one or more rigs, receiving training as needed, practiced operating skills, and did odd jobs around the shack. Fourth, I felt that the meeting program was informative and interesting. We were lucky to have had Richmond City Council member Donna Powers give an off-the-cuff presentation on the Richmond Community Warning System. Sandi Genser-Maack from the Richmond History Museum presented a great program on Richmond history and forthcoming activities of the Museum.

Though not directly linked to the Special Event, the crank-up tower was installed Thursday by Ralph Hall, Ralph Leon, and Bob Szentimrey. It was checked out by a work crew on Saturday afternoon, including the Ralphs, Roger, Liz, Jamie, Sharon, Henry, and Fred.

Operations during the event were generally slow, but there were a few exciting DX contacts, such as KD6SXH's contact with the Falkland Islands, and fun ragchews in the novice CW bands. We had contacts with 59 stations on 6 bands (70 cm, 2 m, 15, 20, 40 and 80 m). Event operators were: KE6NMJ (Paul), KG6FR (David), KB6WC (Peter), KD6SXH (Greg), W6THD (Art), WB6DOB (Joe), KD6JCT (Rich), and

AC6PU (Kham). The great new Icom 738 is easy and enjoyable to operate and provides an incentive for many of our Techs to upgrade for HF privileges.

Jamie, AB6WJ, produced three draft versions of a certificate which will be sent to stations who QSL. An ad hoc committee (those people loitering, who wanted to put in their 2 cents worth) selected one design. We await the final product with great expectations.

Congratulations to Kham on his upgrade, and thanks to all the club members and visitors who contributed to the event.

---

## November Swap Meet(ing)
### David Brandon, KG6FR

The program for the November EBARC meeting will be a swap meet. For a $5 EBARC donation plus 10% of your "take," you can have a spot at a table to peddle your wares. Invite your friends (to buy and/or sell). Bring money and some way to carry your treasures home. *Important: What you don't sell or give away goes back home with you!*

---

## World Radiosport Team Championship
### David Brandon, KG6FR

The World Radiosport Team championship (WRTC) will be held in the SF Bay Area on July 13 and 14, 1996. This will be truly an Olympics of ham radio, with 2-person teams (about 50 of them) representing various countries. We have a filled out a preliminary application to have W6CUS be one of the sites for the contest. This will be a great opportunity for EBARC to contribute to this worthwhile activity and to share in the positive publicity and goodwill generated by this event. Would you be able to offer accommodation to one or more visiting hams? Watch this space for further information and we may have a future meeting devoted to the event.

---

## December Holiday Party
### Vern Orme, AA6YE

Bring your ideas for a December holiday party to the November EBARC meeting. Be sure to get information about the available dates, times, and per-person cost for the restaurant, if a restaurant event is what you are proposing. Time is short and all decisions will have to be made at the November meeting.

---

## EBARC Tech Class

It's not too late to join the current codeless Technician class taught by Ivan Sturman and Henry Primbsch. We are about halfway through the class, which is held every Tuesday and Thursday evening from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Kensington Community Center. The final class, Thursday, November 16, will be an ARRL VE test session (written Novice and Technician tests only). For more information, call Ivan at (510) 524-9021.

---

## Be Proud of Your Club

You can purchase a yellow golf shirt with a logo on the back and an optional name and call sign above the left pocket. It's ideal for all ham radio functions. If you'd like to order a shirt, the price (*cash!*) is $20 for sizes S, M, or L, and $22 for sizes XL and XXL. For this annual order, there may be a price change, and the difference between

what you paid and what the shirt costs will be refunded when your shirt is delivered. Don't miss out! Contact Joe Lee, WB6DOB, at 724-0533 with your order.

---

## EBARC Info Now on the World Wide Web

### Ed Bear, KE6DVS

If you have a computer running Windows and Netscape, or if you have some other way to access the World Wide Web (WWW), you can now look at information about EBARC. The EBARC home page is at http://www.ccnet.com/~oso/ebarc.html. It was designed by Leo Lewis, WA6ZFV, and I maintain the information in it. With so many people "web-surfing", the EBARC Board approved this home page as a good method of publicizing our club.

The EBARC home page contains the W6CUS and ARRL logos, general information about the club, where we meet, how to get a sample newsletter, and how to join. There are links to Bay Area events, RACES/ARES news, the EBARC Executive Board, our nets, club members' own home pages, and a link to other WWW amateur radio subjects. I am exploring whether ARRL can link our information to their home page. If you have a personal home page on the WWW, and wish to link it to the EBARC "club members" list, please contact me. I'll be happy to put in the link for you.

---

**Let's design a new W6CUS QSL Card!**

---

## EBARC Roster Update

- **UPGRADE:** Kham Vilaikam just upgraded to Extra and changed his call sign (again) to AC6PU. Congratulations!
- **UPGRADE:** John Tim, KE6VWG, just upgraded to General. Congratulations, and enjoy your new HF privileges!

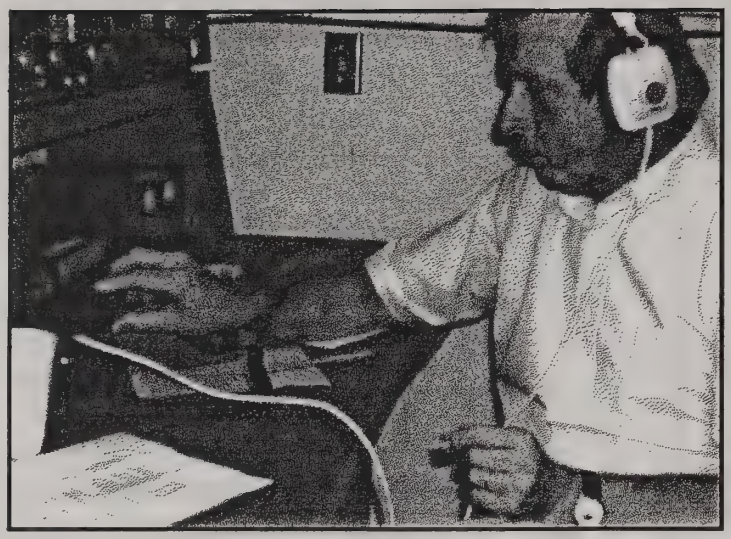
---

## Future Bay Area Events

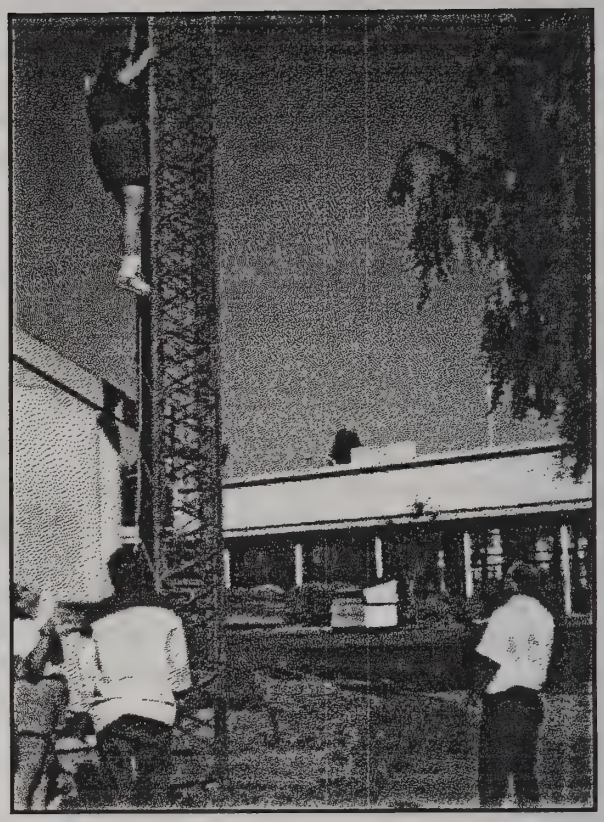
- Livermore Swap Meet, 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College, 7 a.m. to noon, all year. Talk-in 147.045 MHz. For more info, call Noel, KC6QZK, (510) 447-3857, evenings.
- EBARC-sponsored ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Sessions are regularly scheduled on the third Sunday of every odd-numbered month. The next test is at 9:00 a.m. on Nov. 19th.

---

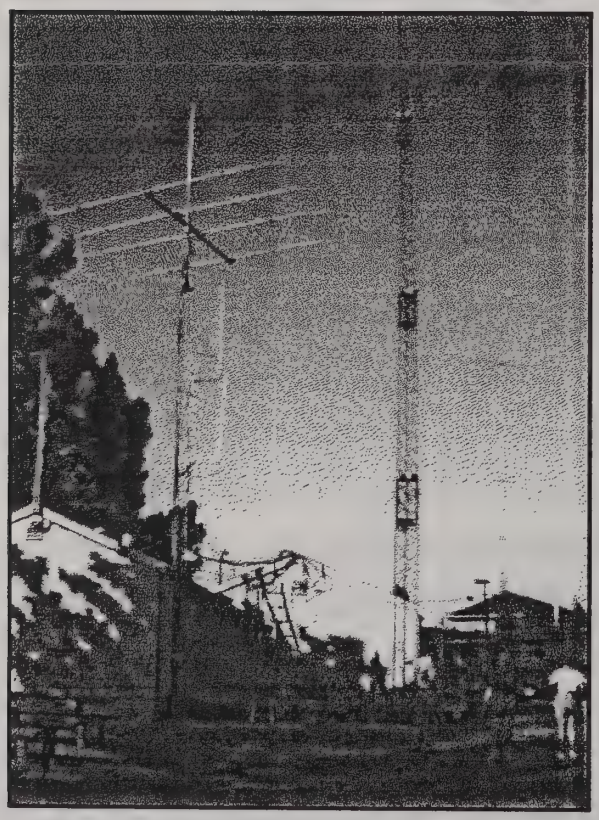
The photos on the next page were taken the weekend of the Richmond 90th Birthday Special Event. They are to honor of all the EBARC club members who donated time, money, and/or effort to the renovation of our W6CUS club station. Thanks to everyone for everything!



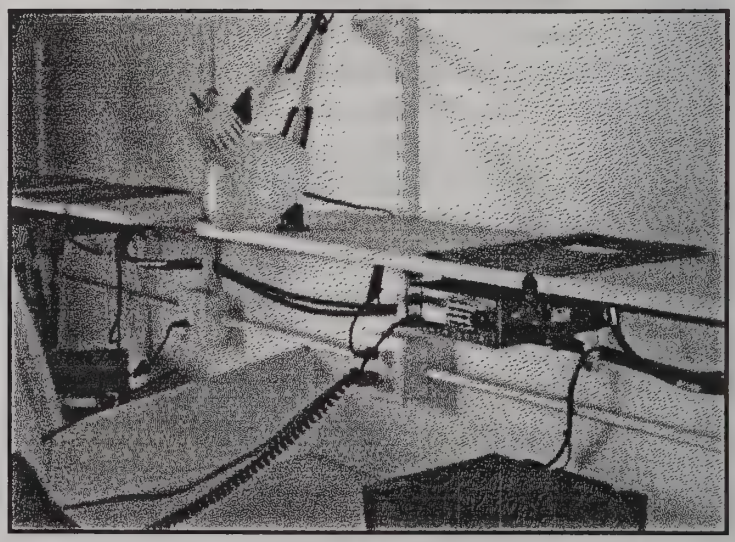
David Brandon, KG6FR, works the Special Event Station



Jamie Wasson, AB6WJ; Liz Charlton, KO6XP; Roger Nelums, KE6XZG, and Fred Nieman, KC6VLL check the cables



The new tower, fully extended, viewed from the rear of the W6CUS shack



One UHF/VHF work area, as designed and built by Ralph Hall, W6EFD, & Co.

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc., founded in 1947, is a California non-profit corporation comprised of amateur radio operators in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The club is open to anyone interested in amateur radio. Annual dues are $20 for individual membership and $24 for a family membership. For information, call (510) 233-7509, contact any EBARC official, or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. The East Bay Amateur Radio Club maintains a club station, W6CUS, at the Richmond Red Cross. The packet station, W6CUS-1, is on 145.790 Mhz, and is linked to the EAST BAY LAN (EBAY) on 223.720 Mhz.

## 1995 EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB EXECUTIVE BOARD

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## AMATEUR RADIO NETS

| NET | DAYS | LOCAL TIME | | FREQ, MHZ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| EBARC Slow CW Net | Weds | 2030 | | 21.115 |
| EBARC SSB Net | Weds | 2100 | | 28.395 |
| No. Calif. VHF National Traffic System Net | Daily | 2030 | | 145.210 |
| Women's Amateur Roundtable | Weds | 2000 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |
| West Contra Costa County ARES/RACES Net | Thurs | 1845 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |
| Northern Alameda County ARES Net | Thurs | 1915 | | 147.48s |
| Contra Costa Communications Club Net | Thurs | 1930 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |
| Oakland ARES Emergency Communications Net | Thurs | 1930 | (PL 77) | 146.880 |
| "Over the Hill Gang" Breakfast/Commute Net | Mo-Fr | 0710 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |
| Northern Calif. Net VHF Session | Daily | 1930 | | 145.410 |
| "Going Home Group" | Mo-Fr | 1600 | (PL 82.5) | 145.110 |

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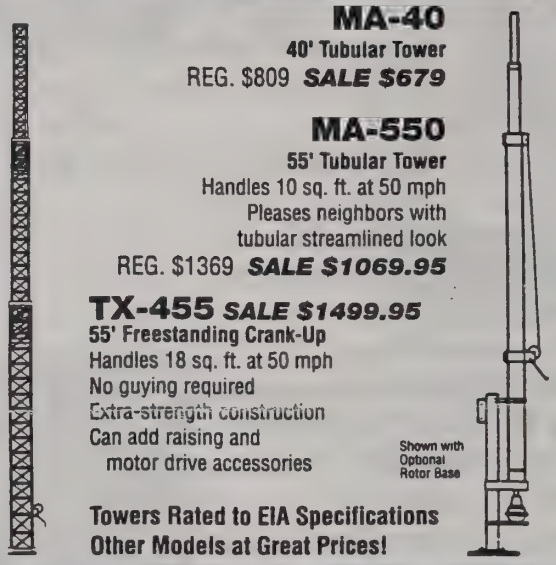

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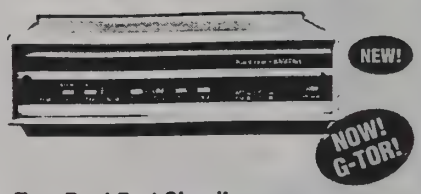

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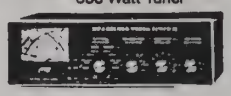

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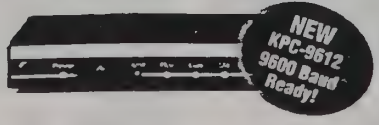

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QLF

# THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME XLVIII NUMBER 12 DECEMBER 1995

## EBARC Party

December 8, 1995
7:00 p.m.

Holiday Party and
Installation of 1996 Officers

**Meet at W6CUS**

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club will meet this month
at the W6CUS club station, 3200 Madconald Ave., Richmond.
The Executive Board meets the first Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m.
at the home of Mel Hurley, KC6FAW, 137 Purdue Ave., Kensington.

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*The Blown Fuse* is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is free to its members. *The Blown Fuse* welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. *The Blown Fuse* reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of *The Blown Fuse*. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

Deadline for Jan. issue: Dec. 27

*[Articles can be submitted to the W6CUS packet bulletin board's AA6XZ mailbox, by dialing in to the editor's computer, by dictation over the 'phone, or by e-mail to primbsch@cmsa.berkeley.edu.]*

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## Message from the President
### Fred Nieman, KC6VLL

Let me first wish everyone the best for the holidays, and I hope that next year will be better for everyone.

Speaking about holidays is like speaking about Amateur Radio in that it is celebrated in many ways. There are different ways to "celebrate" ham radio. There is UHF, VHF, HF, Pactor, packet, AMTOR, satellite, Internet, and many more. Everyone can pick their own celebration, enjoy it, and not have to worry about the ways others celebrate.

We have a new slate of officers for next year. I welcome them and wish them well. I hope that everyone will join in to help them (that means get off your duff and really help). The nominating "group" asked almost everyone in Albany to take the chairs of this club before we found the shining stars. This is your club and you need to know you are in this hobby for more then just a ride. There is job for everyone in this club. So when asked to help, don't say "maybe," say "***Hell yes***; I will do anything I can to help."

As I look back over the past two years as President, I see that a lot has been done. There have been some bumps in the road, but we did get my main dream almost finished. The new station at Red Cross should make us all proud. Thanks to Ralph and his crew, the station is very usable and should be used by one and all.

Thanks to one and all who put forth a great effort to make me look good and make my job easier. Now I can sit back and just say ***"Hell yes"*** just like the rest of you.

RENEW FOR 1996!

## Treasurer's Report
### November, 1995
### Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer

NOVEMBER INCOME

Individual Renewals: KC6OMY, KC6FAW, W6/EL2BG, N6PIX, KC6QCG, KC6JCQ, N6SPY, WD6GGC, KE6DVT, WD6AKC, W6EFD, KC6VLL, WA6TNI, KD6FVI, AB6WJ, KO6XP, KD6SXH, WI6O, KB6WC ..... $380.00
New Member: KE6EUA..... 20.00
Family Renewals: W6NGE/Eileen, N6EEG/N6UYO, KC5IDS/KC5HHG, KF6FU/Donna Mae..... 96.00
Ham Radio Outlet (advertising) ..... 60.00
Base Station (advertising)..... 18.00
Coffee Kitty ..... 20.35
"Scratcher" Sales ..... 37.00
Donation (WI6O)..... 5.00
Station Fund Donation (anonymous) . 49.00
ARRL Renewal (KD6FVI) ..... 25.00
Total November Income ..... $710.35

NOVEMBER DISBURSEMENTS

Pacific Bell (W6CUS)..... $16.06
AT&T (W6CUS) ..... 5.55
City of Albany (room rental)..... 40.00
ARRL Renewal (KD6FVI) ..... 23.00
Refreshments (Ron Smith)..... 12.15
Blown Fuse Printing..... 57.58
Blown Fuse Postage..... 40.64
Brochure Printing..... 17.32
Labels ..... 1.70
Total Nov. Disbursements ..... $214.00

BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS

Checking (General Fund) ..... $1,088.01
Savings (Station Fund*)..... $486.37

*$117.89 is the actual amount belonging to the station fund. An error of $0.45 was noted in the September total of disbursements (in the club's favor!).

Remember to renew for 1996 and feed the kitty!

## Corrections, Please!
### Fred Nieman, KC6VLL

Below are three lists involving guides, workers, and donors for the renovation of the W6CUS club station. We need the correct information for the plaque for the club station. Also, we want everyone to get credit where credit is due! If you know of any corrections (especially omissions), please let me know right away. Thanks. P.S., it's not too late to donate money and have your name included on the plaque!

**"What" (Project Guidance) Committee:**

Harry Bier, WA6TNI
Doug Cain, N6JNK
Ralph Hall, W6EFD
Mel Hurley, KC6FAW
Leo Lewis, WA6ZFV
Fred Nieman, KC6VLL
Henry Primbsch, KK6PH
Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ
Sam Watson, N6VIF

**Members who helped with construction:**

Doug Cain, N6JNK
Liz Charlton, KO6XP
Stanton Gleason, KD6SWU
Jack Hall, KA6OHW
Ralph Hall, W6EFD
Mel Hurley, KC6FAW
Ralph Leon, W6NGE
Leo Lewis, WA6ZFV
Roger Nelums, KE6SZG
Fred Nieman, KC6VLL
Henry Primbsch, KK6PH
Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ
Robby Robinson, N6MNL
Bob Szentimrey, KC6QCG
Jamie Wasson, AB6WJ
Sam Watson, N6VIF

**Funds/goods donations of $100 or more:**

In memory of Betty Baldo, KB6P (by Chris Baldo, AI6S)
Chris Baldo, AI6S

John Billones, WD6GGC
David Brandon, KG6FR
In memory of Lloyd Colvin, W6KG (by Chris Baldo, AI6S)
Ralph Hall, W6EFD
Rachel Lewellen, KB6LHR
Leo Lewis, WA6ZFV
Fred Nieman, KC6VLL
Henry Primbsch, KK6PH
Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ
Greg Small, KD6SXH
Bob Uhrhammer, WB6VEX

---

## General Meeting Minutes
### November 10, 1995
### John Percival, WI6O, Secretary

The regular meeting of the East Bay Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:34 p.m. by President Fred Nieman, KC6VLL. Fred welcomed members and guests to this meeting held at the Albany Senior Center. Fred announced that the swap meet planned for this meeting is canceled due to lack of sellers.

GUEST: Bill Gwynne, WA6OBJ.

DECEMBER MEETING: Fred said that the Board of Directors has proposed that our December meeting be held at the Richmond Red Cross. Since a Christmas Dinner party has not been set up for this year, we will have a holiday party at the Red Cross Station after the business portion of the December meeting. This will be on Friday, December 8th, our regular meeting night. Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, suggested that we have a "Round Robin" gift exchange at the party. The gifts should be gender neutral (suitable for a man or woman) and should cost less than ten dollars. Participation in the gift exchange would be voluntary, but Sharon said it will be lots of fun. She will explain the procedures for the exchange in the *Blown Fuse*. Fred asked if members wanted to try the gift exchange and said we could also bring canned goods for donation to the Red Cross or Salvation Army. There was a favorable response expressed by a show of hands.

FUND RAISING: Fred explained the "Entertainment Book" of discount coupons good for dining and other entertainment, which can be purchased through our club for $40. The books can be obtained for many county areas throughout the state. The Club will receive $8 for each one sold. Fred added that they are excellent as gifts or for personal use. Fred mentioned the plaque for the Club Station to recognize those who donated to the remodeling project. He hopes to have it ready early in the new year. He also asked for help to make certain that all those who are due recognition will receive it.

EDUCATION: Ivan Sturman, WB6PIV, reported that a no-code license class is in process and that a no-code Technician license exam session will be given Thursday, Nov. 16th at the Kensington Community Center. Ivan said a Morse code class will probably start after the first of the year.

ELECTION: Fred reported the slate of candidates nominated for club offices, but said no candidate had been found to serve as President for 1996. After several people were asked, a Presidential candidate was found when Gayle "Burgie" Jones, KE6MSF, said she would be willing to serve. Roger Nelums, KE6SZG, accepted the nomination for the office of 2nd Vice President, the office for which Burgie was originally nominated. There were no further nominations from the floor. Motions were made, seconded and passed, first to close the nominations, and then to declare the slate of officers elected. The new

officers are as follows: President - Gayle "Burgie" Jones, KE6MSF; 1st Vice President - David Brandon, KG6FR; 2nd Vice President - Roger Nelums, KE6SZG; 3rd Vice President - Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ; Treasurer - Gordy Parsons, NU6W; and Secretary - John Percival, WI6O.

Past President Harry Bier, WA6TNI, urged members to get active in the running of the club. He suggested that new members, especially, can help keep the club moving by their participation. John Billones, WD6GGC, added that our committees do the real work, and that committees are a great place for new members to volunteer and learn about the workings of the club. Sharon Primbsch reminded members that the Board meetings are open to all members.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m. for raffle drawings.


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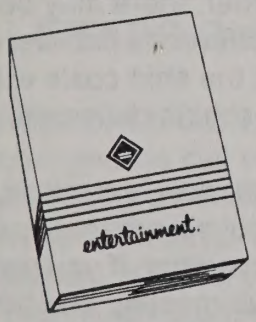


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# EBARC December Holiday Party

**Vern Orme, AA6YE**
**Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ**

The holiday party this year will be held Friday, December 8th, at 7 p.m. at the W6CUS club station (3200 Macdonald Ave., Richmond). We'll have a short business meeting and the installation of 1996 officers first. Then it's party time! There will be eggnog and goodies. Family and friends are welcome. To show our appreciation, monetary gifts to the "American Red Cross" are encouraged.

There will be a voluntary "round robin" gift exchange. Any member or guest who wants to take part in the exchange should bring one wrapped, untagged, gift valued under $10. The gift should be in good taste and gender neutral (suitable for either a man or a woman). Every participant's name goes into a hat. The first person selected opens any gift he/she wishes to open. Everyone thereafter can either open another gift or take an opened gift away from somebody else. If a person chooses to take a gift from somebody, *that* person can either open a wrapped gift or take a gift from a different person. The turn ends when a gift is opened, and then a new name is drawn from the hat. On any one "turn", you cannot take the same gift from somebody else. In other words, if you started a turn with a teddy bear and somebody took it from you, you cannot end that particular turn in possession of the teddy bear. To keep the game moving, we might want to agree on a limit of 4 or 5 "thefts" per turn. The exchange ends when the last gift has been opened.

## 2 Meter Donations Needed for the Salvation Army

**Sam Watson, N6VIF**

During the Loma Prieta earthquake, one EBARC member "worked the 'quake" from the Salvation Army building on Appian Way in El Sobrante. It was during that event when I noticed the Salvation Army has lots of supplies for emergencies. I think we should build better ties to this organization.

Their building has been recently renovated. It now contains a senior center, and someone is on site around the clock. There is a lockable room we could use to store ham equipment, and use during an emergency. Because somebody is always on-site, we would have easy access to the equipment. I talked with the officer in charge. He knows about hams and is trying to get his own license. One of his soldiers is a ham, but he lives in Pittsburg (which doesn't help the El Sobrante unit).

I'd like to coordinate the collection of donated 2-meter equipment to use at this site. If you have a 2M rig (with PL tone), coax, or an antenna you could donate, please contact me at 223-6408.

---

## Info for EBARC's Home Page?

**Ed Bear, KE6DVS**

If you'd like to have your e-mail address, packet address, or other information about you added to the EBARC home page on the World Wide Web, please contact me at 222-7015. The EBARC home page is at: http://www.ccnet.com/~oso/ebarc.html. *[See last month's* Blown Fuse *for more information. - Ed.]*

---

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## Shirts and Badges

**Joe Lee, WB6DOB**

Yellow ham golf shirts will be ordered before the end of the year. If you'd like to order a shirt, the price (*cash!*) is $20 for sizes S, M, or L, and $22 for sizes XL and XXL. For this annual order, there may be a price change, and the difference between what you paid and what the shirt costs will be refunded when your shirt is delivered.

If you'd like a club badge, now is the time to order one. I'd need about six orders to make it worthwhile. Remember, if you wear your club badge to a club meeting and buy raffle tickets, you get one raffle ticket free!

Contact me at 724-0533 with your order(s). You can leave a message on the answering machine if I'm not home.

---

## Silent Key, WB6QKS

Yosh Nakamura, WB6QKS, of San Francisco died October 25th. He had been a long time member of EBARC. Before it became too difficult for him to get around, Yosh furnished lighting, power cords, a generator, and gasoline for EBARC's Field Day. He will be missed by those of us who knew him.

---

## Bargain Novice/Tech Books

There are several *Now You're Talking* Novice/Technician study books left over from the recent EBARC class. They are available at the bargain price of $16.25 each. If you'd like to buy a copy, contact Ivan Sturman at (510) 524-9021.

---

## Honored Volunteers

Harry Bier, WA6TNI, and John Billones, WD6GGC, have resigned from the EBARC Board as Members-at-Large. We thank them for their many years of service to our club. They are shining examples, showing us all how important it is to volunteer.

---

## EBARC Roster Update

- **NEW CALL SIGN:** Kham Vilaikam just changed his call sign (yet again) to AC6QE (from AC6PU).
- **NEW MEMBER**: Please welcome Frank Bianchi, KE6EUA, to EBARC. He has a Technician license and lives at 1292 Santa Fe, Hercules, CA 94547. His phone number is 724-2473. He's an ARRL member who's still learning lots about ham radio. His other hobbies are landscaping, photography, and fishing.

---

## Future Bay Area Events

- Livermore Swap Meet, 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College, 7 a.m. to noon, all year. Talk-in 147.045 MHz. For more info, call Noel, KC6QZK, (510) 447-3857, evenings.
- EBARC-sponsored ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Sessions are regularly scheduled on a Sunday in every odd-numbered month (except holidays). This schedule will change for 1996 to either the first Sunday or the last Sunday of the month. Watch this space for further news. Exams are held at the Alameda Contra Costa Medical Association Blood Bank, on Claremont Ave., just east of College Ave., in Oakland. Examinees should arrive at 9:00 a.m. For more information, contact Allen Smith, AA6UX, (415) 752-8783.


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*[The EBARC Board list and the list of nets will appear in the next issue. - Ed.]*

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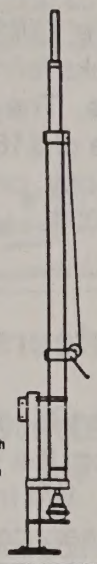
Prices, specifications, descriptions, subject to change without notice.

## US TOWER CORPORATION

**MA-40**
**40' Tubular Tower**
REG. $809 ***SALE $679***

**MA-550**
**55' Tubular Tower**
Handles 10 sq. ft. at 50 mph
Pleases neighbors with
tubular streamlined look
REG. $1369 ***SALE $1069.95***

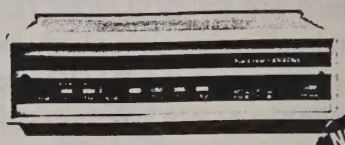
**TX-455** ***SALE $1499.95***
**55' Freestanding Crank-Up**
Handles 18 sq. ft. at 50 mph
No guying required
Extra-strength construction
Can add raising and
motor drive accessories



Shown with Optional Rotor Base

**Towers Rated to EIA Specifications**
**Other Models at Great Prices!**

## KANTRONICS
**KAM PLUS**



NEW!
NOW! G-TOR!

**True Dual Port Simultaneous HF/VHF Operation**

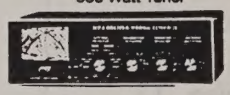
**NEW** KAM Plus features 128K RAM, EPROM space for 1 MB, on-board clock, expanded personal mailbox and **Pactor! And G-TOR!** Operating modes include CW/RTTY/ASCII AMTOR/PACKET/PACTOR/WEFAX Terminal programs available for PC, Commodore and Macintosh computers.

***CALL FOR OUR SPECIAL PRICE!***

## MFJ

**MFJ-949 E**

300 Watt Tuner



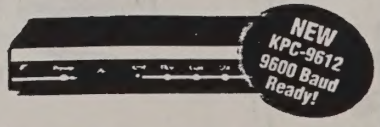
Built-in dummy load
New peak and Average Lighted
2-color Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter
Built-in antenna switch, balun • Covers 1.8-30 MHz
**All MFJ Packets Stocked!**

**MFJ-1278 B**

All 9 digital modes
Easy Mail™ Personal Mailbox
20 LED Precision Tuning Indicator
Includes free power supply
**One Year Unconditional Guarantee**

**Call now for all MFJ products...**
Wattmeters, dummy loads, coax switches, keyers, clocks, speaker and mics, software, books and more!

## KANTRONICS
**KPC-3/KPC-9612**



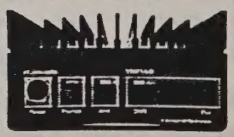
NEW KPC-9612 9600 Baud Ready!

A high-performance, low power TNC, for new and experienced users. Features dual level command set with 23 and 130 commands, respectively. Battery backed 32K RAM expandable to 512K. PBBS includes two-way forwarding, message header editing, remote sysop access and KA-NODE.

***Call For Special Low Price!***

## rconcepts
**VHF/UHF**

Solid State Amplifiers



Contemporary design, quality and a 1 year warranty on parts and labor. 1 year on the RF Final transistors. Most amplifiers have GaAsFET receive pre-amps and high SWR shutdown protection

## GEOCHRON
**Global Time Indicator**

• Detailed illuminated map shows time, time zone, sun position and day of the week at a glance for any place in the world. Continuously moving - areas of day and night change as you watch.• Mounts easily on wall. • Size: 34 1/2" x 22 1/2".
Reg $1295. ***SALE $999.95***